

New Puppy Tips

- **Housetraining:** Reward puppies with a treat after they do their business outside (don't wait until you get back in the house, give them the treat right then!) Make sure your puppy gets to go out frequently and keep in mind that young puppies won't be able to hold it as long as an adult dog. Get your puppy spayed or neutered around six months to avoid the development of marking behaviors.
- **Chewing:** Puppies chew and will continue to do so well into adulthood. If you catch your puppy chewing on an inappropriate item, take it away and give the puppy one of its own toys. You can spray items with no-chew spray. Do not give your puppy household items such as old shoes to chew on.
- **Barking:** Puppies can be noisy but you can redirect their attention to a toy or game. Try desensitizing your pup to sounds such as thunder and doorbells by playing them at random and rewarding him or her for good behavior.
- **Socializing:** It's important to expose your puppy to a variety of people, situations and other dogs at a young age so that they learn to play well with others. Take your puppy to parks and pet stores to meet and greet other people and animals. If your puppy is very young and not yet fully vaccinated you should avoid public places.
- **Feeding:** Keep your pet at a healthy weight by feeding them measured portions instead of leaving food out all day. Obesity can lead to heart disease, diabetes, and arthritis, just like in humans. Keep an eye on their weight for a long, healthy life!

Puppy Vaccine Schedule

Quad Cities Animal Hospital
480 Highway 20
Tuscumbia, AL 35674
256-389-1355



Congratulations on your new best friend! We recommend the following vaccine schedule for the best protection against contagious disease while they are still developing.

- 6 weeks: 1 combo vaccine for Distemper, Parvo, Hepatitis, and Parainfluenza
- 9 weeks: 1 combo vaccine for Distemper, Parvo, Hepatitis, Parainfluenza, and 1 vaccine for Kennel Cough.
- 12 weeks: 1 combo vaccine for Distemper, Parvo, Hepatitis, Parainfluenza, and Leptospirosis (for some dogs).
- 16 weeks: 1 Rabies vaccine and 1 combo vaccine for Distemper, Parvo, Hepatitis, Parainfluenza, and Leptospirosis (for some dogs). Puppies will be started on heartworm prevention and scheduled for their spay or neuter at this time.

We want to work with you to keep your new puppy healthy and happy. Your puppy will receive an exam with his or her first visit and be dewormed with each set of boosters. Feel free to call us with any questions you may have!

Flea & Tick Prevention



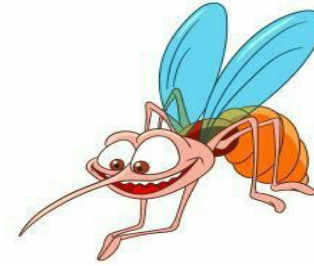
Fleas and ticks have hounded animals and humans alike for thousands of years, carrying serious diseases such as bubonic plague, Lyme disease, and parasites. To keep you and your pets as healthy as possible we recommend keeping up with flea and tick prevention year round.

Fleas live on pets, livestock, wildlife, and in the grass. They not only cause itchiness but actually suck your pet's blood! A heavy infestation can cause anemia or serious infections in dogs and cats. Fleas can also carry tapeworms, mycoplasma, and other diseases. Keeping your pet free of fleas is the best way to avoid diseases and parasites.

Ticks are abundant in wooded and grassy areas and, as with fleas, a heavy infestation can cause anemia and other illnesses such as ehrlichiosis. Some of these diseases can also be passed to you and your family by ticks your pet may bring into your house.

These diseases can be expensive to treat and have long lasting consequences for your pet's health. Check out our selection of prescription flea and tick products that we stock year-round for your convenience. Ask about rebates and special pricing for large purchases. Prevention is the best medicine!

Heartworm Prevention



Heartworm Disease is a potentially deadly condition carried by mosquitoes. Tiny heartworm larvae are injected into your pet by infected mosquitoes. These grow up to be adult worms that clog the heart and cause damage. Heartworms cannot be seen with the naked eye and symptoms may not appear in dogs and cats until the disease is very advanced.

Dogs that live or spend lots of time outdoors are at the most risk, however indoor dogs can be infected as well. Even small dogs that never go outdoors should stay on prevention.

Cats can become infected with heartworms as well. Unfortunately there is no effective treatment for cats that have Heartworm Disease, so prevention is the only option to ensure your pet's health.

The best medicine is always prevention! For the same cost as a single heartworm treatment you can purchase about 7-10 years of prevention. We recommend keeping all dogs and cats on prevention year round. Puppies and kittens should be started on prevention before 6 months of age. Adult dogs can be tested quickly during their routine checkup and put on prevention at any age. Check out our selection of quality heartworm products and feel free to ask us any questions you have!