



Frequently Asked Questions

Is it safe for my pet to receive multiple vaccines at once?

In most cases, it is safe for pets to receive multiple vaccines at once. However, vaccines may be spread out in smaller animals. Ask your veterinarian what is best for your pet.

There is a lump located at the injection site. Is this normal?

It is very common for your pet to develop a lump in the same location as an injection site. We often see it associated with the Rabies vaccine. The lump will go away with some time.

You can do warm compresses at home to help the body break it down. If the lump is persistent and changes or grows in appearance, please give the office a call so we can get your pet seen.

Do I need to look out for vaccine reactions?

Vaccine reactions are rare but they can happen. Most common side effects associated with vaccines are soreness at the injection site and lethargy. However, if your pet experiences vomiting, diarrhea, facial swelling, hives or any other concerning signs please contact us or your nearest 24hr veterinary facility as this is an emergency.

Why is it recommended to keep my cat indoors?

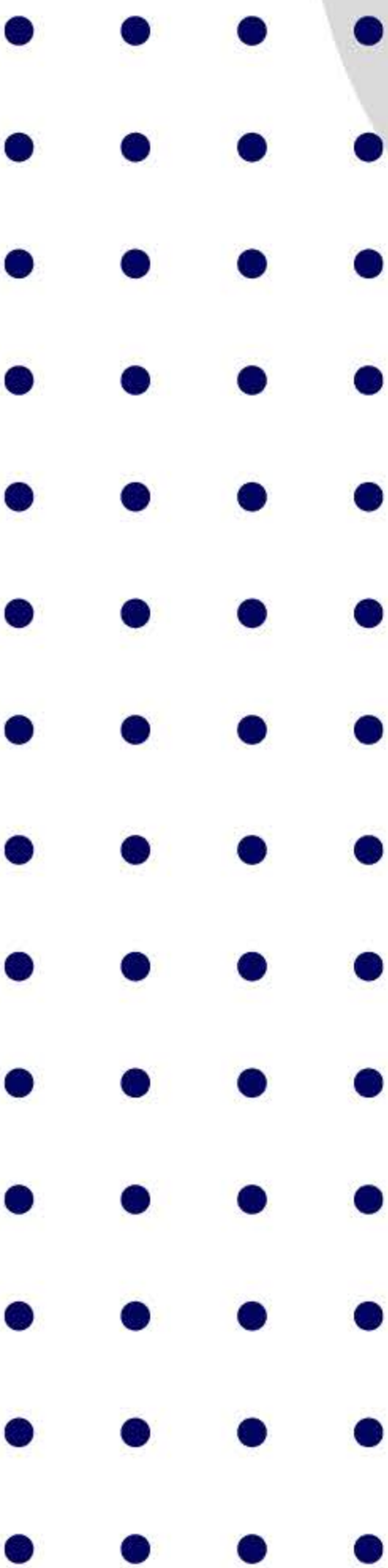
Keeping your feline companion indoors ensures they live a long, healthy life. Cats who are allowed uncontrolled outdoor access are at very high risk of contracting and spreading disease and parasites, injury or death due to traffic, illness or death associated with toxin consumption, wounds and abscess' caused by bites from strays/ferals or other wildlife, and getting permanently separated from their pet parent. Outdoor felines also pose a threat to small bird and animal species and have the potential to disrupt ecosystems..

How old does my pet need to be to start Flea/Tick prevention?

Flea/Tick prevention can be started at 8 weeks of age as long as your pet weighs over 4lb.

Does my pet really have to be on Flea/Tick and Heartworm prevention year round?

With Heartworm Disease and Lyme cases on the rise, it is highly recommended for dogs to be on not only Heartworm Prevention, but also Flea/Tick prevention every month, year round, for life. Heartworm Disease is spread by mosquitoes and with more animals being brought up from the south, Heartworm Disease is becoming more prevalent in our area. In addition, with recent winters being milder, temperatures are frequently rising above 40 degrees fahrenheit increasing the prevalence of ticks and other external parasites.





Frequently Asked Questions

At what age can my pet get spayed/neutered?

Opinion varies between veterinarians. Speak with your veterinarian to decide what is best for your pet.

Does my pet have to get spayed/neutered?

It is highly recommended to get your pet spayed/neutered. Ultimately, as the pet parent, it is your decision whether or not you get your pet altered. But, it is our job to educate you on the risks of keeping your pet intact. There are health benefits that come with removing the reproductive organs such as reducing the chances of your pet developing reproductive cancers and other diseases.

Having an intact female increases the risk of:

Breast Cancer

Uterine Cancer

Pyometra (infection of the uterus) which is life threatening and requires emergency surgery

Unwanted pregnancy

Having an intact male increases the risk of:

Testicular Cancer

Prostatitis (infection of the prostate) and Prostate Disease

Certain urinary crystals that lead to bladder stones

Urinary problems/markings/spraying

I want to get my pet spayed/neutered but I have financial concerns, what can I do?

CareCredit, a medical credit card accepted at veterinary facilities and some medical facilities, is always an option when it comes to paying for veterinary care. If you are interested in applying for CareCredit, there is a direct link to the application on our website www.meridenanimalhospital.com. You also have the option to look into low cost spay/neuter clinics such as:

Nutmeg Clinic

626 Surf Ave, Stratford, CT 06615

203-690-1550

POA Spay

144 Main St unit e, East Hartford, CT 06118

860-206-7922

TEAM (Tait's Every Animal Matters) Van (cat's only)

1201 Boston Post Rd, Westbrook, CT 06498

860-399-5569

APCP- CT Spay/Neuter Voucher Assistance

Visit www.ct.gov and search APCP (Animal Population Control Program) for more information





Vaccine Schedule and information: Feline

8 weeks:

FVRCP (feline distemper) - also abbreviated as FDV

FVRCP is a core vaccine meaning, regardless of lifestyle, all cats should be vaccinated. After the initial vaccine, it is boosted once 3-4 weeks later. At that point it will be valid for one year and then is boosted every 3 years.

What does FVRCP protect against?

FVRCP is a combination vaccine that protects cats against 3 different viral infections they can spread to each other. These infections are:

Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis (Feline Herpes)

Calicivirus

Feline Panleukopenia (Feline Distemper)

12 weeks:

FVRCP booster (1 year)

Rabies (1 year)

Rabies is not only required by state law but it is also a core vaccine. The first dose is valid for one year. Then, it is boosted every 3 years.

Leukemia

Considered a lifestyle vaccine, Leukemia is highly recommended for any cats that are going to roam the outdoors that may come into contact with ferals or strays. Though it is recommended to keep cats inside, it is ultimately the pet parents decision. After the initial vaccine, Leukemia is boosted 3-4 weeks later where it will be valid for a year and then boosted yearly.

16 weeks:

Leukemia booster (Annual)

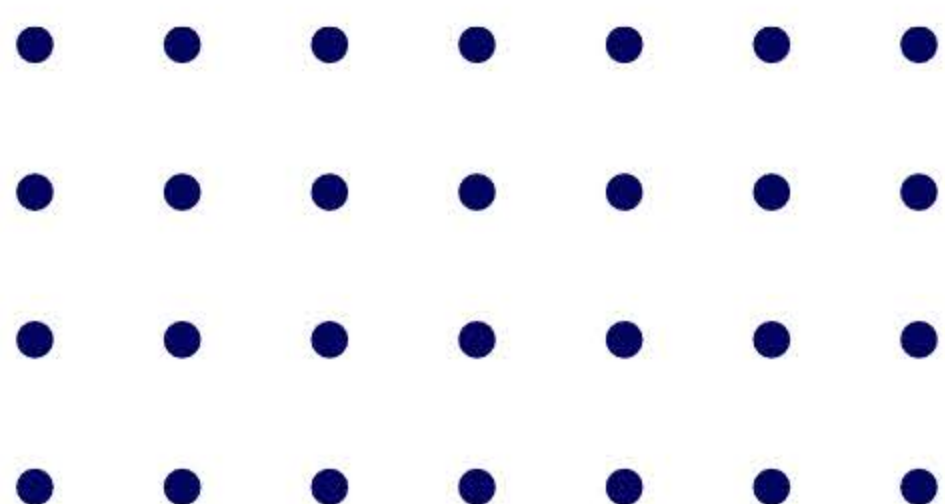




Food/Drinks/Substances That Are TOXIC to Cats and Dogs

IF YOU THINK YOUR PET HAS BEEN POISONED..

Contact your veterinarian or the **ASPCA National Animal Poison Control Center** right away at 1-888-426-4435 or **Pet Poison Helpline** at 1-800-213-6680 right away. Share any information you have, including what they might have eaten and the symptoms you are seeing. There may be a charge for speaking with the poison control line.



- Alcohol
- Avocado
- Caffeine
- Chocolate
- Citrus
- Garlic
- Grapes
- Macadamia Nuts
- Marijuana
- Onions
- Raisins
- Raw Dough
- Raw Store Bought Meat
- Scallions
- Shallots
- Tomatoes
- Parsley
- Xyliol



Common Houseplants That Are TOXIC to Cats and Dogs

Aloe Vera

Amaryllis (amaryllidaceae)

Azalea

Bird of Paradise (Strelitzia Regniae and Caesalpinia gilliesii)

Chrysanthemum (Chrysanthemum morifolium)

Cutleaf Philodendron (Monstera Deliciosa)

Daffodils (Narcissus spp.)

Devil's Ivy (epipremnum aureum)

Dieffenbachia (Dieffenbachia amoena)

Dumbcane (dieffenbachia)

Elephant's ear (alocasia)

English Ivy (Hedera helix)

Eucalyptus (myrtaceae)

Hyacinth (Hyacinthus orientalis)

Hydrangea (hydrangeaceae)

Jade Plants (Crassula)

Kalanchoe (Kalanchoe blossfeldiana)

Lilies (Lilium or Hemerocallis spp.)

Lily of the Valley (Convallaria majalis)

Mandrake

Mistletoe

Moss Rose (portulaca oleracea)

Peace Lily (Spathiphyllum)

Poinsettia (Euphorbia pulcherrima)

Pothos (Epipremnum aureum)

Oleander (Nerium oleander)

Sago Palm (Cycas revoluta)

Snake Plant (Dracaena trifasciata)

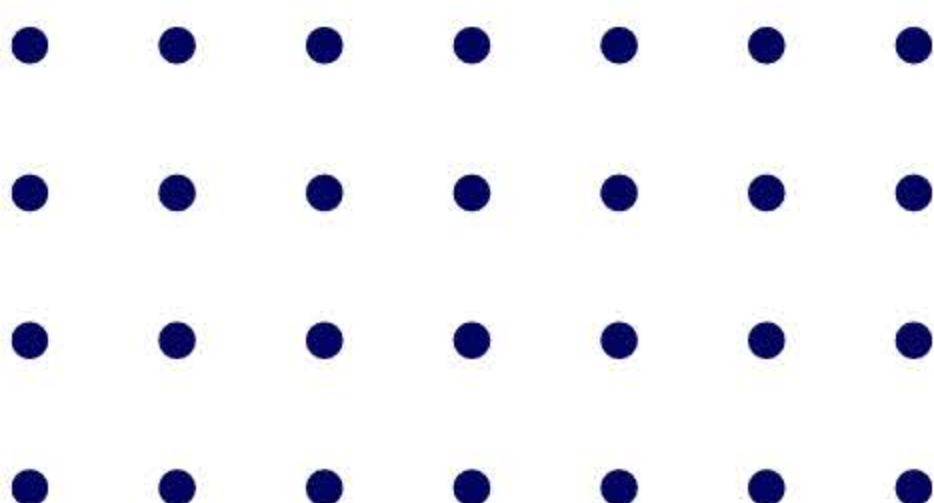
Tulip (Tulipa spp.)

Wisteria (fabaceae)

Yew

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Grooming and Boarding Facilities

Groomin N Roomin Kennels LLC

130 Meriden Rd, Middlefield CT
(860) 364-1242
gnr.kennels@gmail.com

The Dogfather Mobile Grooming

360 E. Main St, Stratford CT
477 S. Broad St, Meriden CT
Mobile: (203) 907-3626
Stratford: (203) 612-1160
Meriden: (203) 379-0650

Paws Pet Resort and Spa

312 E. Johnson Ave, Cheshire CT
(203) 250-7297
info@pawspet.com

Village Pet Spa and Kennel

220 N. Colony St, Wallingford CT
(203) 269-3554
VillagePetSpaandKennel@gmail.com

The Crate Escape

25 N. Plains Hwy, Wallingford CT
(203) 265-7881

The Muddy Puppy Holistic Pet Spa

71 N. Turnpike Rd, Wallingford CT
(203) 269-6600
The Dog Cabin LLC
24 Stack St, Middletown CT
(860) 704-8080
hello@dogcabinct.com

Dirty Tails

109 E. Main St, Plainville CT
(860) 747-9663
DirtyTails@att.net

Holiday Pet Lodge

1065 W. Dayton Hill Rd, Wallingford CT
(203) 269-4222
info@holidaypetlodge.com

Pet Pals Grooming Salon LLC

1199 Old Colony Rd, Wallingford CT
(203) 812-8318

Shampooch Paw Spa

779 Newfield St, Middletown CT
(860) 500-9402
christina@shampoochpawspa.com

PetCo

816 Washington St, Middletown CT
(860) 343-0229
848 N. Colony Rd, Wallingford CT
(203) 294-0039

