

# Sawnee Animal Clinic

## Puppy Health Care Value Program



**Cost of the Puppy Health Care Value Program and how much you save:**

- Puppies starting at 6 to 9 weeks of age is **\$425** (average cost without the plan is **\$550**)
- Puppies starting at 9 to 12 weeks of age is **\$375** (average cost without the plan is **\$500**)

Below you will find an itemized list of the products and services you receive when you sign up for the Puppy Health Care Value Program. You get a huge savings on exams and vaccinations in addition to the added bonus of free products and discounts that you need to keep your puppy healthy and happy.

**Program starting at 6 to 9 weeks of age includes:**

- 5 physical exams
- 4 Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvovirus, Coronavirus vaccinations
- 2 Lepto vaccinations
- 1 3-year Parvovirus vaccination
- 2 fecal tests (to check for intestinal parasites)
- 2 Bordetella vaccinations
- 1 Rabies vaccination (county tag fee included)
- 5 months of heartworm prevention (Tri-Heart Plus)
- 5 months of flea prevention (Comfortis)
- 1 microchip
- 5 toys (one at each visit)
- 1 informational CD
- 1 bottle of cologne
- 1 bottle of shampoo
- \$50 off the price of your puppy's spay or neuter

**Program starting at 9 to 12 weeks of age includes:**

- 4 physical exams
- 3 Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvovirus, Coronavirus vaccinations
- 2 Lepto vaccinations
- 1 3-year Parvovirus vaccination
- 2 fecal tests (to check for intestinal parasites)
- 2 Bordetella vaccinations
- 1 Rabies vaccination (including county tag fee)
- 4 months of heartworm prevention (Tri-Heart Plus)
- 4 months of flea prevention (Comfortis)
- 1 microchip
- 4 toys (one at each visit)
- 1 informational CD
- 1 bottle of cologne
- 1 bottle of shampoo
- \$50 off the price of your puppy's spay or neuter

**Program restrictions include, but are not limited to:**

- Puppies over 12 weeks of age cannot participate in the program
- Program not transferable to other pets
- Additional medications not included
- Additional vaccinations not included
- Program can be paid in full or split into two payments
- Refunds given only in the event that pet has severe health problems or passes away

# Puppy Vaccine Schedule

## **6 to 9 weeks of age**

- Physical exam
- 6 to 9 week Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvovirus, Coronavirus booster
- Heartworm prevention
- Flea prevention

## **9 to 12 weeks of age**

- Physical exam
- 9 to 12 week Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvovirus, Coronavirus booster
- Fecal test
- Heartworm prevention
- Flea prevention

## **12 to 15 weeks of age**

- Physical exam
- 12 to 15 week Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvovirus, Coronavirus booster
- Lepto booster #1
- Bordetella vaccine
- Heartworm prevention
- Flea prevention

## **15 to 18 weeks of age**

- Physical Exam
- 15 to 18 Week Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvovirus, Coronavirus booster
- Rabies vaccine and county tag fee
- Lepto booster #2
- Heartworm prevention
- Flea prevention

## **18 to 21 weeks of age**

- Physical Exam
- 3-year Parvovirus vaccination
- Fecal test
- Heartworm prevention
- Flea prevention

# Preventable Canine Diseases

**Rabies:** A fatal infection affecting the central nervous system. This virus is transmitted primarily through the bite of an infected animal. The rabies vaccine is **required by law**.

**Distemper:** Often fatal, distemper can cause vomiting, diarrhea, pneumonia and severe brain damage.

**Bordetella, Parainfluenza:** The most common respiratory infection in dogs. Signs include cough, flu-like symptoms, and nasal discharge.

**Hepatitis:** A viral disease which may lead to severe liver damage.

**Parvovirus (CPV):** A potentially fatal intestinal viral disease that causes severe vomiting and diarrhea.

**Corona virus (CCV):** A viral intestinal disease. The symptomatic form can lead to severe damage and secondary infections. The clinical form may cause vomiting and diarrhea.

**Leptospirosis:** A bacterial infection that often leads to permanent kidney and liver damage.



# Basic Information

## Vaccinations

- Vaccinations for most puppies start at 6 weeks of age. Boosters are given every three weeks until 18 to 21 weeks. Any booster given under 12 weeks of age is temporary. For long-lasting protection, most vaccines require 2 doses no more than 4 weeks apart and the puppy must be at least 12 weeks old. When finished with the puppy boosters, vaccines are recommended on a yearly basis, but **rabies is required by law**.

## Heartworms and Fleas:

- Heartworms are parasites carried by mosquitoes. A preventative, chewy tablet given monthly can prevent heartworms. A monthly tablet that aids in the control of fleas, heartworms and intestinal parasites is also available. Fleas can be controlled by using a monthly topical or oral tablet.

## Feeding:

- A high-quality diet is important especially during rapid growth periods. We suggest “meal feeding”. The puppy is given all the food it will eat in 30 minutes then the food is removed. Depending on the puppy’s age, breed, and weight, it should receive 2 to 4 meals daily. Meal feeding reduces obesity as an adult and reduces finicky eaters. It also makes house training a lot easier.

## House Training:

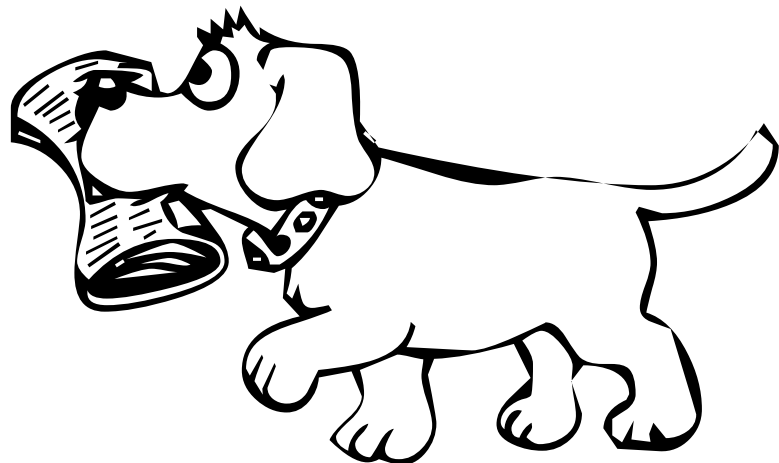
- Dogs are naturally “den” animals. They instinctively do not mess where they sleep. Crate training builds on this instinct. The crate should be no longer than twice the size of the puppy. You can use a much larger crate to allow for growth and pack the back part of the crate with a cardboard box or blanket. Start crate training at 6 weeks old. At this age, a puppy should be able to wait up to 4 hours before needing to go outside. When out of the crate, keep the puppy close by using baby gates or a long leash so that you can reduce accidents in the house.
- Each individual puppy will usually establish a time period between eating and needing to go outside. By feeding a few times a day, a bathroom schedule can be set more easily. We do not recommend “paper training” or using pee pads. Take the puppy outside on a leash to the bathroom area. Do not encourage playing. If the puppy does not go to the bathroom, place it back into the crate for 5 to 10 minutes. Repeat until the puppy goes. At this time, give the puppy lots of praise and treats. Let the puppy sniff and play around and have fun. You want the puppy to learn that by eliminating outside, good things happen. Starting with the puppy on a leash prevents it from playing around and forgetting to go.
- Most problems occur when switching from crate training to house training because we allow the puppy too much area too soon. We must teach the puppy that the entire house is its den but we must do it one room at a time. Use baby gates to block off the kitchen or use a 6-foot leash to attach the puppy to a table leg. Gradually expand to 2 rooms and then 3 rooms. If accidents start to recur reduce the area again for a while.

### Basic Training:

- Chewing is natural for puppies. It is their way of learning about their environment by tasting and smelling. We can't teach puppies *not* to chew but we can teach them *what* to chew. Offering toys (and alternating the toys every so often) will keep your puppy interested. When you find your puppy chewing on an unacceptable object, take it from the puppy's mouth and replace it with a toy.
- Biting or nipping is natural, but can lead to serious problems later. Start teaching early that **no** biting is acceptable. In most situations, a muzzle grasp or a wolf-roll will work. Canine mothers and pack leaders use these techniques to correct puppies in the wild. Practice both of these techniques 3 times a week for 2 to 3 minutes each time or more often if needed.
- Expose the puppy to as many new experiences and people as possible, but avoid the puppy getting hurt or too frightened. Place your fingers in the puppy's ears and mouth and handle the toes and feet, as well. Practice these nightly for 3 to 5 minutes. Getting the puppy accustomed to these actions will make cleaning ears, administering medications, and trimming nails easier.
- Start using a collar when the puppy is 6 weeks old. Teach the puppy to leash walk, sit, and come. These commands are useful in correcting undesirable behavior. Remember it is easier to train correctly when they are young rather than trying to retrain when older.

### Surgeries:

- Spaying (female) or neutering (male) is usually done from 6-12 months of age. Recovery time is much faster and many medical advantages are gained by doing this surgery before the pet is one year old. In general, spayed or neutered pets have fewer medical problems than those who are not.
- We use gas anesthesia for most surgeries because we feel that it is safer. A small blood profile before anesthesia (called Pre-op bloodwork) can help identify problems that might affect anesthesia. Most surgeries receive antibiotic and pain relieving injections prior to surgery. We also recommend dispensing pain relievers to your pet at home during recovery.



# Important Reasons to Spay Or Neuter

**Spaying your female pet (Ovariohysterectomy):** removal of the ovaries and uterus. The ideal age for this surgery is 4 to 6 months old.

- If spayed before first heat cycle, your pet has less than a 1% of developing breast cancer; if spayed after two heat cycles the risk increases to 26%
- Pets with diabetes or epilepsy should be spayed to prevent hormonal changes that may interfere with medication.
- Eliminates the risk of ovarian and uterine cancer.
- Eliminates unwanted pregnancies

**Neutering your male pet (Castration):** removal of the testicles and spermatic cord. The ideal age for this surgery is 4 to 6 months old.

- Eliminates the risk of testicular cancer, the second most common tumor in male dogs.
- Greatly reduces the risk of prostate cancer and prostatitis
- Reduces roaming and fighting
- Eliminates or reduces spraying or marking in males neutered before 6 months of age or before the onset of these behaviors
- Eliminates the risk and spread of sexually transmitted diseases
- Eliminates unwanted litters

**UNFORTUNATE REALITY:** In the United States, more than 4 million pets are euthanized in animal shelters each year simply because they have no home. Many are puppies and kittens less than 6 months old. Help stop this needless loss of life. ***SPAY AND NEUTER YOUR PETS!***

**COMMON MYTHS:** Spaying or neutering your pet does **NOT** cause...

- Laziness or hyperactivity
- Reduction in its instinct to protect your family and home
- Immature behavior
- Delay in normal behavioral maturity
- Alteration of its personality in any manner

**Our staff can answer your questions about spaying or neutering or any other procedure your pet may undergo at our clinic. Please don't hesitate to ask!**

# Heartworm Disease In Dogs

## **What are heartworms?**

- Heartworms are parasites, transmitted by mosquitoes, which can live and breed inside your dog's heart. Adult heartworms can cause heart and lung damage, even death.

## **How do dogs get heartworm disease?**

- Infected mosquitoes transmit heartworm larvae from one animal to another.

## **What are typical symptoms of infected pets?**

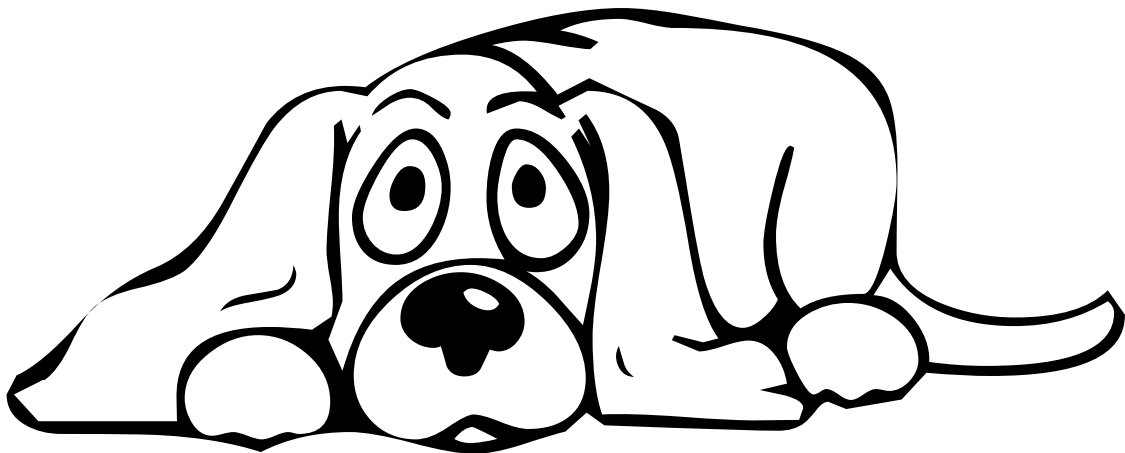
- The disease can cause coughing, lack of energy, labored breathing, and weight loss.

## **Is heartworm disease common in my area?**

- In the United States the prevalence is highest along the southeastern Atlantic and Gulf Coasts, but heartworm has been found in all 50 states. The disease is less prevalent at higher elevations.
- The highest infection rates (up to 45 percent) in dogs not maintained on heartworm preventive are observed within 150 miles of the Atlantic Coast from Texas to New Jersey and along the Mississippi River and its major tributaries.

## **What can I do to protect my dog?**

- There is a monthly prevention for dogs that comes in a flavored, chewable tablet.



# 17 Common Poisonous Plants

To see this same list with details, please visit this link at the ASPCA site:  
<http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/poison-control/17-common-poisonous-plants.html>

- Lilies
- Marijuana
- Sago Palm
- Tulip / Narcissus Bulbs
- Azalea / Rhododendron
- Oleander
- Castor bean
- Cyclamen
- Kalanchoe
- Yew
- Amaryllis
- Autumn crocus
- Chrysanthemum
- English Ivy
- Peace Lily
- Pothos
- Schefflera

**Please keep in mind that there are HUNDREDS of plants that are toxic to pets!!!**

For an extensive, searchable list of toxic and non-toxic plants to dogs, cats, and horses, please visit:

<http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/poison-control/plants>