

Animal Medical Center at Fort Sheridan presents

THE PUPPY PACKET

Tips from the experts



Welcome to Animal Medical Center at Fort Sheridan & congratulations on your new addition! Puppies (and new rescues!) are a great addition to any family. To help you navigate through these early weeks, we have included some useful information in this folder for you to reference.

BEHAVIOR

Start training right away

It is important to start training right away. Included in the packet are a few handouts on training and socializing your new puppy. For additional information, we recommend the following books:

Perfect Puppy in 7 days: Starting Your Puppy Off Right By: Sophia Yin 2011
Decoding Your Dog By: American College of Veterinary Behaviorists 2015

DIET & TREATS

Provide the best source of nutrients

Puppies have specific nutritional needs during this time of rapid growth. Included are a few handouts for selecting the best food for your new dog.

Due to an ongoing FDA investigation into heart disease caused by diet, grain-free and exotic meat/ingredient diets are not recommended. Ask us if you have questions about diet selection.

DENTAL HEALTH

Repetition is key to healthy teeth

Dental health is a very important part of your pet's overall health. Regular brushing is the single most effective thing you can do to keep teeth healthy. Included in the folder are handouts on dental health and tooth brushing.

VACCINATIONS

Routine vaccines

We will discuss a vaccination schedule for the core vaccines (Distemper/Hepatitis/Parvovirus, Rabies). Bordetella, Leptospirosis and Influenza vaccines are recommended for at-risk dogs. We have included handouts about risks of these diseases. Please let us know if you feel your dog is at risk.

HEARTWORM & FLEA/TICK

Prevent potential diseases

Heartworm disease is caused by parasitic worms which are spread by mosquitoes. This disease is preventable with a monthly product given year-round. We recommend to start giving preventatives to your pet right away (8 weeks). Heartworm prevention also protects your pet from intestinal parasites every month.

Fleas and ticks are common in this area. It is important to protect your dog against fleas and ticks that can potentially transmit disease. There are different options available that we can discuss.

SPAY/ NEUTER

Allow time for growth & development

We will discuss what age we recommend spaying or neutering your pet during your visit.

MICROCHIP

Keep your pet safe

A HomeAgain microchip is your pet's permanent ID. A pet microchip—the size of a grain of rice—goes beneath your pet's skin. This permanent ID can never be removed. HomeAgain uses this ID to contact you and reunite you with your pet if your pet should become lost.

INSURANCE

Affording unforeseen circumstances

Insurance can help save money on pet care (especially in an unforeseen emergency). A few different insurance companies include:

- Trupanion: 855-210-8749 (www.trupanion.com)
- ASPCA: 888-716-1203 (www.aspcapetinsurance.com)
- FIGO: 844-738-3446 (www.figopetinsurance.com)
- Nationwide: 888-899-4874 (www.petinsurance.com)
- Petplan: 866-467-3875 (www.gopetplan.com)

EMERGENCY

I.C.E

In case of emergency, brochures and information about local emergency clinics are included. We are able to help your pet during times of emergency, however there are times when we are unavailable. These clinics are open 24 hours, seven days a week and 365 days a year.

Blue Pearl: Emergency Veterinary & Specialty Animal Hospital
820 Frontage Road Northfield, IL
(847) 564-5775

Buffalo Grove Veterinary Specialty Center
1515 Busch Parkway Buffalo Grove IL
(847) 459-7535

A helpful resource for potential toxic substances is the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center website. If you think your pet may have ingested a potentially poisonous substance, you may call the ASPCA Poison Control Center (888) 426-4435 (\$65 consultation fee may be applied or free with HomeAgain microchip registration).

We are honored to be trusted in your new dog's care.

You can expect to visit the clinic regularly during the first few months of puppy ownership; usually once every three to four weeks until your puppy is four to six months of age to become fully vaccinated. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Thank you from the AMC Team!



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