



## VET TO PET MOBILE SMALL ANIMAL CLINIC

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**Thank You!**  
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11 Years



## Your Pet's First Aid Kit

### Pet Emergency Card

1. Veterinarian's phone number and address
2. Emergency Veterinary Hospital phone and address
3. Animal Poison Control Hotline 1-800-548-2423
4. List of pet's current medications and dosages

### In Case of Ingestion of Poison

1. 3% hydrogen peroxide (standard strength sold in stores)
2. Oral syringe or turkey baster
3. Poison control numbers
4. Please note: **DO NOT INDUCE VOMITING UNLESS DIRECTED TO DO SO** – some substances will cause more damage by induction of vomiting. Also some toxins/poisons require follow-up care by a veterinarian to ensure your pet's safety.

### Wound Care

1. Gloves (i.e. nitrile, latex)
2. Gauze squares, Telfa pads
3. Triple antibiotic ointment
4. Adhesive tape
5. Rolled (cotton) gauze
6. Flexible and porous self-adhesive bandage (Vetrap™)
7. Hydrogen Peroxide
8. Iodine/Alcohol/Chlorhexidine Wipes
9. Cotton Balls, Cotton Swabs
10. Scissors
11. Sanitary napkin (i.e. Maxi – especially helpful if you have a hunting dog out in the woods with a bleeding wound until proper veterinary care can be obtained, these “wrappings” can be essential.

### Miscellaneous

1. Pet piller
2. Thermometer
3. Water-based lubricant (K-Y Jelly®)
4. Eyedropper
5. Styptic Powder (Kwik-Stop®)
6. Nail Clippers
7. Tweezers & Tick-twister/remover
8. Hydrocortisone Cream
9. Ice-Pack
10. Pepto-Bismol®
11. Blanket or clean towels
12. FOR YOUR SAFETY: Antibacterial hand wash and/or hand wipes, muzzle, gloves

## Are You Prepared?

Do you have a first aid kit in your house for yourself and your human family? What about a first aid kit for your furry family member? Accidents DO AND WILL happen. Do you take a first aid kit with you when you take your pet on vacation? What about if you are away and an emergency were to arise, does your pet sitter know where first aid items are located in your home? As “on-call” doctors, we frequently receive phone calls from clients that are away on vacation and their family pet is in need of medical attention. There is very little a veterinarian can do from a distance; but if you are equipped with an emergency first aid kit there is usually something you as the pet owner CAN DO. This can buy you time until you are able to get your pet to the nearest veterinary clinic. A little



preparation in advance can lessen the impacts of emergency situations if they occur.

We have listed items that should be included in any pet first aid kit. Please keep in mind that having these items does NOT replace calling a veterinarian or seeking veterinary care. A first aid kit is just that, a kit that allows treatment to be administered prior to medical care being available especially when seconds or minutes matter.

First and foremost, make a Pet Emergency Card. If you will be traveling with your pet, have the number of a veterinary clinic in the area who would be willing to see your pet in case of emergency. Also have the name and phone number of the closest 24 hour emergency clinic in the area. Hopefully, these numbers will not be needed, but having them will give you peace of mind.

## Heartworm Facts You Need to Know

- Heartworm is carried by mosquitoes.
- Mosquitoes are found in all 50 states.
- Canine Heartworm Disease has been found in all 50 states.
- A mosquito becomes infected when it bites an infected dog or coyote and then the

mosquito bites and infects an uninfected dog or cat.

- Pets that do not receive monthly preventative measures for heartworm disease may only live 2-5 years after being infected.
- Keeping your pet inside will not guarantee that it will not get heartworm disease. Mosquitoes can get inside the house.





**Pets age at a rate of five to seven times our aging process.**

**So, a semi-annual exam is very important to your pet's well-being.**

### Senior Wellness Checklist-

This checklist can help you detect behaviors and symptoms that may indicate potential health problems in your senior pet. Early detection is the key to helping your pet live a longer, healthier life. Take a few minutes and see if your pet is exhibiting any of the following:

- Change in water consumption
- Change in appetite
- Lethargic or depressed behavior
- Change in urine production
- Constipation
- Change in attitude (irritability)
- Change in sleeping habits
- Decrease in vision
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Weight gain
- Weight loss
- Bad breath or drooling
- Lumps or bumps
- Excessive panting or labored breathing
- Increased stiffness, trouble walking up stairs

## Pet Health Insurance

**Please – don't put it off!**

The **number one reason** people cite for not purchasing a pet insurance policy is they **"didn't get around to it."** Oftentimes, pet parents will wait until their pet is already injured or ailing before looking into pet insurance.

The truth is, the best time to protect your pet is **NOW!** Insuring pets when they are young and healthy, before any problems arise, ensures that any accidents, illnesses and injuries will be covered, with no concern about pre-existing conditions (according to claims data young pets are statistically 2.5 times more likely to have an unexpected visit to the vet).

There are lots of pet insurance plans available, ask our staff for brochures and recommendations or go to Google and type in **"pet insurance."** You can also visit [www.PetInsuranceReview.com](http://www.PetInsuranceReview.com) and read customer comments and testimonials about the different plans.

## Vacationing With Your Pet ...

Hitting the road: camping, hiking, fishing or reading your favorite book at the beach with your pet can be an enjoyable experience for both you and your pet. Proper planning for the special requirements and precautions involved in including your pet in your vacation will insure a safe and enjoyable experience.

Before leaving on vacation, be sure your pet is up-to-date on all vaccinations. It's important to review your travel plans with your veterinarian since you may be traveling through areas with a prevalence of disease that your pet is not protected against. These include Lyme Disease, Heartworm Disease, Giardia or exposure to flea and ticks. Many of these diseases can pose a serious health threat to your pet. In addition, be sure your dog is protected against Bordatella, a canine upper respiratory infection sometimes referred to as "Kennel Cough." One of the most contagious diseases your dog can be exposed to, Bordatella is passed from dog to dog through airborne transmission and is most contagious during spring and summer months.



- Proof of license and vaccination.
- Familiar toys, bed and/or blanket.
- A recent photo for in case your pet is lost.
- A regular walking leash. And a 30' lead so he can explore while you remain in control.
- Food, Water and Treats.
- A towel and plastic bags. You may encounter wet and muddy feet, and you will need several plastic bags to clean up your pet's stool.
- A comb and brush. You'll need to remove the dust mop collection of "cool stuff" your pet's coat may acquire as he rolls around on the ground.

### Important Precautions

- **NEVER – even for short periods – leave your pet unattended in your car. When it's only 80 degrees outside, a car can heat up to 120 degrees in just minutes. At such temperatures your pet can die very quickly.**

Beware of pet anxiety. Remember you will be taking your pet away from the environment that he is most familiar with and his regular and safe routine. Remember that you are the person your pet cares about the most – he needs the assurance that you are always there for him.

Your pet's suitcase should include the following:

- Pet MicroChip or Tag ID

## Why Bathe Your Pet

**The fitness of your pet's skin is important in maintaining a happy, healthy pet. Skin disorders are one of the most common medical conditions seen by veterinarians.**

Your pet's skin secretes a waxy oil that acts like a magnet for dirt, and the combination of dirt and oil encourages the growth of bacteria on the skin. **These three factors frequently cause offensive pet odor.** In addition, the dirt, grime and oils on your pet's fur can rub off onto carpets and furniture, leaving an unpleasant odor. No one likes a smelly pet or a smelly house, so the condition of your pet's skin affects your environment, as well as your pet's health and happiness.



# 7 Summer Safety Tips

## 1 Cover the Basics

Secure an up-to-date tag on your pet's collar, and make sure to use a leash when you head outdoors. Consult your veterinarian for flea and tick control options, and always keep your pet's vaccinations current.

## 2 Be Wary Around Water

Not all dogs are natural swimmers, so watch your pooch when you're near the pool, beach, or lake. On trips to the ocean make sure your pets don't drink salt water – it upsets their stomach. And watch those currents; the best paddling dog can struggle against an undertow.



## 3 Keep Cool

Schedule walks in the early morning or evening; dog paws hate hot pavement. You can also make dog exercise sessions safe by stopping for drinks of fresh water and finding shady spots for necessary panting breaks. Some pet owners also help prevent overheating with short fur shaves for cats and dogs in the summer.

## 4 Watch for Warning Signs

Heat stroke is an issue for pets, too. Be on the lookout for early symptoms: excessive panting and drooling, bright red gums, weakness, and

balance problems. As the condition worsens, pets may experience labored breathing, lethargy, and even seizures. If symptoms arise, contact your veterinarian immediately.

## 5 Safely Seeing the Sites

Never leave your pet in the car with windows up or down on hot days. Keep dogs' heads in the car while driving; inner ear damage, infections, and injury happen when your best friend sticks his head out the window. Buckle up your dog with a harness or seat belt or a crate carrier secured with a seat belt. And never let pets ride in the back of trucks.

## 6 Party with Prudence

Be wary of what your cats and dogs can get into when you celebrate. Many foods can be bad for dogs and cats, and alcohol is also a no-no. If your pets get anxious or fearful around fireworks or big crowds, keep them isolated in a safe place.

## 7 Protect Against Pests and Poisons

Fleas, ticks, mosquitoes and more seem to be everywhere in the summer, so consult with your veterinarian on the best preventives to use for your pet's lifestyle. Also keep your animal off areas sprayed with chemicals or insecticides, and always store fertilizers and other poisons out of their reach.

## Insect Bites & Stings

Cats and dogs get bitten by bugs all the time. Because of their nose-first exploring, dogs will often get bitten on and around their head. Cats will spot something and want to play with it, more often getting bitten on their paws. Most bites go unnoticed except for maybe a bit of scratching. The worry comes when the bite



slow the spread of the poison, and seek emergency veterinary care immediately.

### Allergic reactions

The most severe allergic reaction an animal can have to an insect bite is to go into anaphylactic shock. This is a body-wide response that can include swelling, hives and breathing problems. Your pet needs urgent veterinary attention. A less severe allergic reaction would be local swelling and irritation at the site of the bite. If the insect bite results in swelling on their face, head or neck, then this could cause serious breathing problems, and you should contact your vet, or you may have to make a trip to the veterinary emergency hospital. If this happens on your pet's body or a leg, it's usually not serious. Remove the stinger with tweezers if you can, and wash the area. You can give your pet some relief from the swelling and itching with Benadryl® (0.5-2mg/lb every 8 hours for both cats and dogs). If your pet still shows signs of swelling and pain 24 hours later, you should contact your veterinarian.

There's all sorts of fun stuff to play with out in the world, but sometimes the fun stuff bites back. Your care and attention will help your pet get over their discomfort. But when it's serious or when in doubt, call our office for professional advice.



is either poisonous or your pet has an allergic reaction. Younger animals, puppies and kittens, as well as older and weaker animals can be more at risk from insect bites. You should pay attention to a bite or a sting if the area around it appears to be very painful and becomes red, swollen and hot to the touch.

### Poisonous bites

In the United States there are two insects bites of concern: the spider and the scorpion. There are only two types of poisonous spiders in the United States – the Black Widow and the Brown Recluse. Scorpions are also a concern, but while not all scorpions are considered deadly venomous, their sting should be taken seriously. Signs of poisoning include drooling, difficulty breathing, muscle tremors, vomiting, loss of bladder or bowel control and paralysis. If you suspect a poisonous bite, apply an ice pack to the bitten area and keep your pet inactive or restrained. These measures will help