

Your pet's health and wellbeing is very important to us and we want to make sure we give you and your pet the best possible care. Which is why we recommend yearly wellness visits with your veterinarian. This helps us in many ways, not only are we able to look back at our meticulous records to see what your pet's "normal" health looks like, but it also helps your pet get to know us and form a relationship so a trip to the vet is not so scary. Many of our patients get so excited to see us and will even run to the door. If you bring your pet only when they are sick, they may be more nervous and uncooperative since they are in a stressful situation with "strangers" poking and prodding them.

Bringing your pet to the vet may be intimidating and you may not always know what to expect. Whether this is your first time owning a pet, you aren't able to be with your pet, or your pet is now in geriatric stages of life, you may be a bit nervous about your visit. Let us ease your nerves.

When your pet first comes into our building, our receptionists will greet you and take a brief history and weigh your pet. If this is your first visit, we ask that you bring some information with you: your pet's previous medical history (if they have been to another vet clinic) and/or vaccination records, the brand of food and how much you're feeding your pet, any medications you are giving your pet, and a stool sample (if you are able to acquire one).

Then, an assistant will bring you and your pet into one of our exam rooms where they will take your pet's temperature and comb them for fleas. At this time if there is anything extra needed, e.g. nail trim, anal gland expression, blood work, ear cleaning, etc., the assistant will bring your animal to the back treatment room for the technicians to perform these tasks.

Afterwards, Dr. Gartland will come in and give your pet a thorough physical exam. Where she will listen to your pet's heart, lungs, check their skin, eyes, ears, give vaccinations (if any). After the exam, Dr. Gartland will talk with you about any concerns you may have or treatments your pet may need.

Finally, you will finish up with the receptionists in the lobby. They will fill any prescribed prescriptions and go over the dosing instructions, along with answering any questions you may have about the medications. They will also get your bill put together, which is to be paid at the time of service, and schedule any future appointments, if needed.

If you have any questions or would like to schedule a wellness visit for your pet, please call our office at (906)786-1878 or you can request an appointment by clicking on the "Request an Appointment" button to the right on our website.