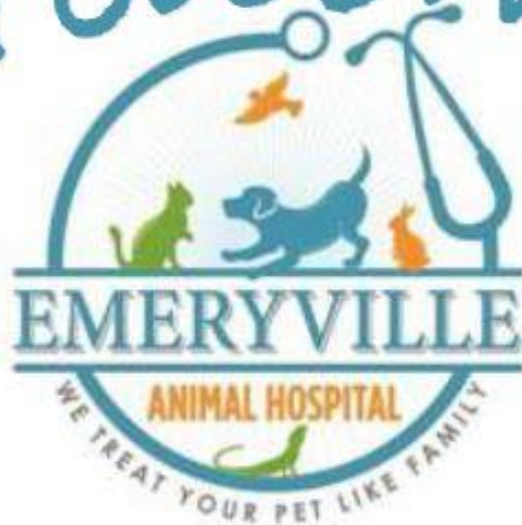


# Welcome!



We know that getting a new pet is a joyful and busy time. We have put together this package of vital information to help you navigate the world of pet parenthood.

We are proud to be a partner in your pet's care and happy to offer all of these exciting services:

- Digital X-ray
- In-House Ultrasound
- Complete Lab Services
- Doggie Daycare
- Boarding for Dogs, Cats, and Exotics
- Obedience Training
- Agility Classes
- Grooming for Dogs and Cats
- Acupuncture
- Physical Rehabilitation
- Full Surgical Suite

**For more details on our Services please check out our website  
[www.emeryvilleanimal.com](http://www.emeryvilleanimal.com)**





## Download the FREE APP!



Request  
Appointments 24/7



Receive Reminders  
for Pet Care



Easily Access Your Pet's  
Vaccination Records



Receive Updates from  
Your Veterinary Provider



Order or Refill  
Prescriptions



Easily Manage Recurring  
Pet Care Tasks

## Ask Us About



**A one stop shop for  
all your pet's needs –  
direct from your Vet!!**



- 
- ✓ Skip the clinic phone lines and shop online from home
  - ✓ Have items shipped to your house
  - ✓ 5% discount with personalized auto-order

## Feline Vaccinations

An in-depth nose to tail exam is a vital part of your pet's wellbeing. Before vaccinating any pet, they must have an exam to ensure they are healthy enough to receive vaccines, and that there are no health concerns that should be addressed. With each kitten booster your pet will get a thorough exam. The Veterinarian's hands-on time is the perfect opportunity to catch any subtle things that may be missed at home.

Vaccination is the best way to protect your pet against disease. Vaccines are highly effective at stimulating your pet's immune system, thereby providing effective protection against serious infectious diseases. Your kitten will need booster vaccines every 3 to 4 weeks until they are old enough to receive their Rabies vaccine. At the first visit your Veterinarian will give you a sheet with your pet's personalized vaccine schedule. One year after the Rabies vaccination, your cat will need to come in for a booster of all vaccines, then yearly for a portion of the vaccines that will be given on a rotational basis. You will receive e-mail reminders when your pet is due for their annual exam and vaccines. Some of the following vaccinations are given only if your cat is at increased risk.

**Rabies** – An incurable viral disease affecting the central nervous system of almost all mammals including humans. It is spread through saliva in contact with any broken skin, most commonly bite wounds. Symptoms begin with a slight personality change which progresses to aggression, then to gradual paralysis, drooling or “foaming at the mouth”, and then death. Most municipalities require vaccination of all owned canines and sometimes felines for the safety of public health.

**Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis** – A virus causing upper respiratory tract infection with symptoms of fever, loss of appetite, and eye and nasal discharge. Effective treatment is limited and even if a cat recovers it can remain a carrier for life. Included in the “FVRCP” vaccine.

**Feline Panleukopenia** – A virus causing listlessness, diarrhea, vomiting, severe dehydration, fever and death. Treatment is difficult, but the vaccine is very effective. Included in the “FVRCP” vaccine.

**Feline Calicivirus** – A virus causing upper respiratory tract infection with symptoms of fever, ulcers on the tongue and pneumonia. Treatment is difficult. If the cat recovers, they may continue to infect other cats and experience chronic sneezing, eye discharge, and oral lesions.

**Bordetella** – a bacteria causing respiratory illness. Sometimes considered for boarding facilities or multiple-cat environments.

The immunization process has an impact on the way some animals feel after receiving a vaccine. Most animals display no symptoms at all while others may appear fatigued, temporarily stop eating, have a slight fever lasting 24-48 hours, or show mild pain or swelling at the injection site. Occasionally, more serious allergic reactions including vomiting, diarrhea, weakness, difficulty breathing, hives and facial swelling can occur, usually within 30 minutes to a few hours following vaccination. If these reactions are observed, your veterinarian should be contacted immediately. These reactions are very rare, and it is important to understand the protection they provide to your pet far outweighs the possible risk!



## Nutrition and Your Kitten

Proper nutrition during the beginning of your kitten's life sets them up for better growth, health, and immunity that impacts them the rest of their life.



We are proud believers in the Royal Canin Development Kitten Food and its years of research to offer the best nutrition for your growing kitten.

Its benefits include:

- High quality protein and precisely balanced calcium, phosphorus and other vitamins and minerals to support optimal growth in kittens.
- Supplemented with DHA to support healthy brain development.
- Highly digestible protein, prebiotics and zeolite to reduce the likelihood of vomiting and diarrhea.
- Synergistic patented antioxidant blend of vitamin C, vitamin E, lutein and taurine to support immune health.

Cats can begin transitioning off kitten food at 12 months of age. Royal Canin Development Kitten Food can very easily be transitioned to Royal Canin Adult Cat Food when your cat is

ready. Take at least 7 days to transition. Start with  $\frac{3}{4}$  kitten food and  $\frac{1}{4}$  adult food for a few days, then half and half, then  $\frac{1}{4}$  kitten food and  $\frac{3}{4}$  adult food, then 100% adult food.

As an adult, your cat will need a carefully balanced diet to avoid gaining weight. This can place undue pressure on bones, joints, and organs, reducing your cat's quality of life. If you've given your cat the right, nutritionally balanced food through those critical early months while feeding recommended feeding amounts and promoting exercise, by the time it reaches adulthood it should be a healthy and happy cat.

If you are unsure on how best to feed your kitten to ensure they are given the best nutrition for their age and lifestyle, speak with your veterinary team who will be able to offer recommendations.

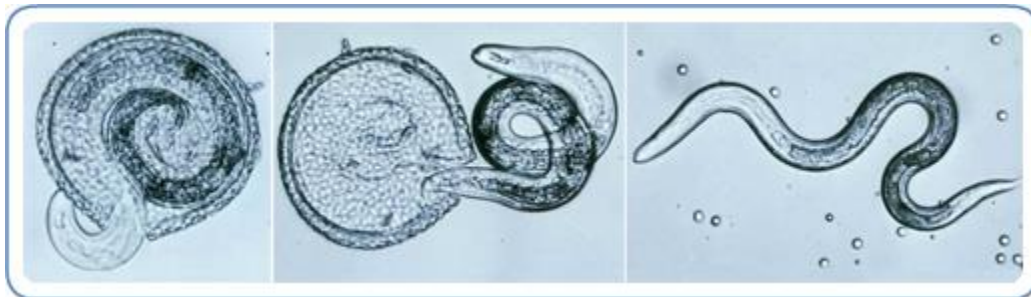




## Common Parasites of Cats

### Internal Parasites

Cats can contract intestinal parasites by ingesting contaminated soil or feces or eating another infected animal. Sometimes worms can be passed on to kittens during pregnancy. Symptoms of worms or giardia may include diarrhea, vomiting, weight loss, decreased appetite, or a pot-bellied appearance. Often there may be no symptoms present at all. Regardless, it is extremely important to test for these parasites by microscopic examination of the feces, and to treat for worms as soon as possible, as these parasites can be accidentally passed on to other cats, dogs, and even people.



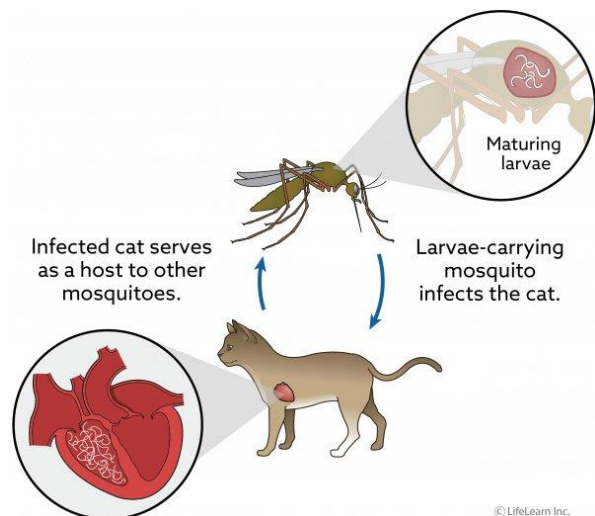
**Roundworms** – the most common parasite of puppies. Appears as long, spaghetti-like worms.

**Hookworms** – appears as shorter, skinny, spaghetti-like worms.

**Tapeworms** – appears as flat segments or white, rice-like spots sticking around the bum.

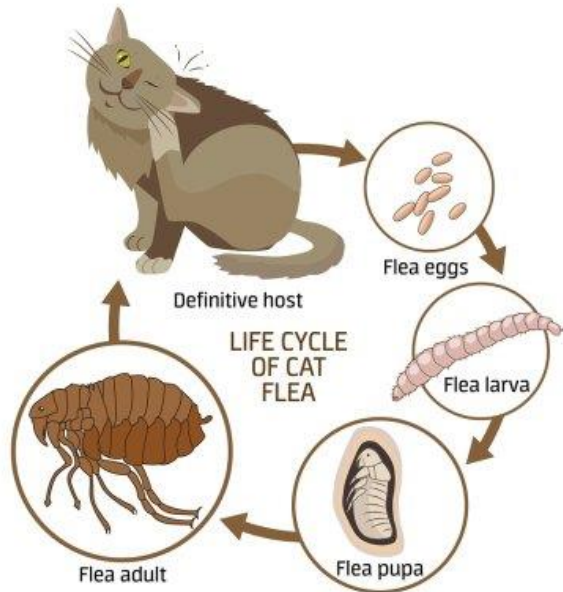
**Giardia** – cannot be seen without a microscope.

**Heart worm** is a different kind of worm causing lung and heart disease in cats. When a heart worm infested mosquito feeds on a cat, some heart worm larvae are deposited in the cat's tissues, just like dogs. However, instead of migrating to the heart, in cats the larvae migrate to the pulmonary artery as the immune system launches an aggressive attack against the worm. If the worm reaches adult hood and dies, it causes a huge amount of inflammation in the lung tissue and many cats do not survive this.



## External Parasites

**Fleas** are small, brown coloured parasites that feed on the blood of our pets. They are a nuisance and can be a significant health hazard as well! A heavy infestation of fleas, especially on a small or young animal can quickly result in anemia (low blood level) and death. They can cause severe itching resulting in skin infections and hair loss. Fleas can carry and transmit



bacteria called *Bartonella* that can cause health issues in cats, dogs, and people. Fleas can also carry tapeworm.

**Ticks** are arachnids that feed on the blood of mammals, birds, and sometimes reptiles and amphibians. They “attach” to the host and feed slowly for 8-10 days. During that time, they can transmit several diseases including Lyme, Anaplasmosis, and Ehrlichiosis, which may result in joint pain, lameness, and kidney damage.

### **Mites**

Ear mites are tiny infectious organisms resembling microscopic ticks in appearance. The mite can just barely be seen as a small white dot with the naked eye, but usually must be detected by examining a sample under a

microscope. In the ear, infection usually produces a characteristic dry black ear discharge that is commonly said to resemble coffee grounds. On the skin, mites cause itching and hair loss.

## Parasite Testing and Prevention

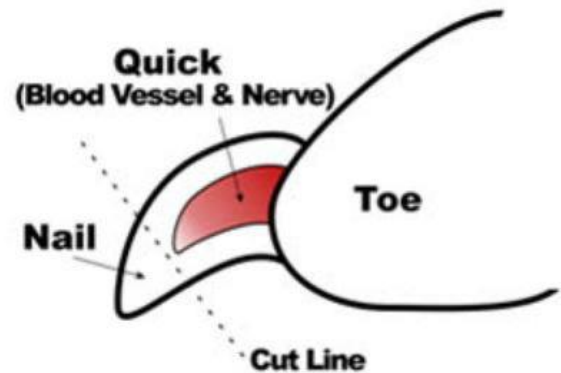
At your kitten’s first appointment, their adolescent exam and then yearly, we will ask that you bring a fresh sample of feces from your cat that we will send to a laboratory to be tested for intestinal parasites. The lab will run the sample under a microscope to look for eggs and test for antigens. If the test is positive, your cat will require a de-worming medication specifically targeting the parasite they have, then a fresh fecal sample will need to be re-tested to make sure the parasite is gone. Sometimes parasites can be very stubborn and require a few rounds of de-worming! If the test is negative, simply continue giving monthly parasite prevention. “Parasite Prevention” is what we call the medication that prevents common parasites which may include fleas, ticks, heart worm, mites and intestinal parasites. The type of prevention your cat requires depends on what they will be exposed to – your Veterinarians and Registered Veterinary Technicians at Emeryville Animal Hospital will be able to go over the options and pick an appropriate prevention for your cat’s lifestyle. We highly recommend year-round prevention as it does stay warm enough in the Windsor and Essex County Area for many parasites to stay active throughout the winter.

## How Do I Keep My Pet Looking Perfect?!

**Nails** left too long can cause pain and lameness due to deviation of the toes. It is also more likely that the toenail will get caught, break off, and bleed. Cats, dogs, rabbits, ferrets and guinea pigs can all be done much the same way. You can have your veterinary staff or groomer trim them, or you can trim them at home if your pet allows.

Here's how:

1. Have someone help and hold your pet
2. Use good trimmers, appropriate for the size of your pet
3. If you see the quick (the pink part that contains the blood vessel), cut the nail 1/8<sup>th</sup> of an inch longer than the quick where the nail is white
4. If your pet has black nails, trim small amounts at a time until you see a black dot in the middle of the nail. This means you are close to the quick.
5. If the nail begins to bleed, apply pressure to the end with a clean cloth for 1-3 minutes. A styptic pencil, cornstarch, or commercial blood stopper may help.



### Dental Care

Just like people, cats and dogs should have their teeth brushed daily or a few times a week to reduce plaque and tartar buildup and gum disease. Imagine if a person did not brush their teeth for weeks, months, or years! A buildup of tartar will cause disease of the teeth and gums making the mouth smelly and painful, and the bacteria present can even affect your pet's internal organs. Cats and dogs as young as 2 and 3 years old can be affected by periodontal disease. To start you will need toothpaste formulated for pets, a small, soft bristle or rubber toothbrush, and patience as you introduce brushing to your pet.

1. Begin slowly introducing the toothpaste on a small cloth wrapped around your finger or on the toothbrush. Brush a few front teeth on day one and then stop and reward with praise!
2. Every day gradually increase the time and number of teeth brushed until the whole mouth can be brushed. If your pet is still very fussy, focus on the outside of the teeth (not the side that the tongue touches).
3. Praise, praise, praise! Brushing teeth is a huge accomplishment. Good job!

## Grooming At Home

Some quick grooming facts:

- Long haired pets should be brushed daily, and short haired pets should be brushed weekly to eliminate the hair that accumulates around the house and causes matting of fur.
- Dogs should be bathed at least every 7-12 weeks to help eliminate odour and loose hair. Cats should be bathed as needed.
- A good quality, tearless shampoo is best to use. Bathing should include shampooing, followed by a conditioner that is allowed to sit for 5 minutes. Rinse well.
- Most dogs go 7-12 weeks between trims, most cats with a Lion's Clip go 16-18 weeks between trims. It all depends on how fast their fur grows.
- Never try to cut matted fur out as you can easily cut your pet's skin. Serious mats should be left to your groomer who has more expertise and the proper equipment.

## Grooming at Emeryville Animal Hospital

We offer grooming for every age and breed of cat and dog. Your cat's spa day may include a shave or brush out, ear cleaning, bathing, and nail trimming. Professional grooming can help reduce dander – the main cause of pet allergies in humans. Please be aware that occasionally in multi-cat households, they may show aggression to each other for a few days after grooming. Your pet will stay with us for a few hours during their groom. Weekdays only – call to reserve your spot!





## Spay, Neuter, and Anesthesia

**Ovariohysterectomy** is the medical term for spaying. The surgery involves the removal of the ovaries, fallopian tubes and uterus. There are many benefits including no more heat periods, no unexpected litters, reduces risk of mammary cancers, and reduced risk of uterine infections. We recommend spaying cats at 6 months of age.

**Orchidectomy** is the medical term for neutering. The surgery involves the removal of the testes. Neutering is important behaviour-wise to reduce roaming, inter-male aggression, mounting, and urine marking. It is important medically to reduce incidences of prostatic problems, testicular cancer, and urogenital infections, as well as unexpected litters. We recommend neutering cats at 5-6 months of age.

These are surgical procedures performed under general anesthesia, in a sterile environment. The Veterinarian wears a cap, mask, sterile gown and gloves, uses sterile surgical instruments, and covers your pet with sterile drapes. A Registered Veterinary Technician monitors vital signs. It is typically a 1-day procedure, meaning your pet is dropped off and admitted for surgery in the morning and will be able to go home in the afternoon.

Spaying and neutering your pet will not change their personality, disposition, activity level or intelligence. If there is a personality change after surgery, it would have occurred without surgery.

Your comprehensive spay and neuter quote includes:

- In-house blood work prior to surgery to make sure your pet is healthy
- A pre-surgical examination done by your Veterinarian the day of surgery
- Complimentary overnight stay before surgery
- General anesthetic with endotracheal tube placement for safer breathing
- I.V. catheter placement before surgery to prevent anesthetic complications and blood pressure problems
- Full anesthetic monitoring with our top-of-the-line equipment
- Individual sterile surgery packs
- Complimentary nail trim
- Pain medication before, during, and after surgery to keep your pet comfortable
- Post-surgery discharge consult to go over important information about your pet's surgery
- Complimentary recheck appointment to make sure your pet is doing well after surgery and to remove skin sutures

## Early Detection Blood Work

To ensure your pet can properly process and eliminate an anesthetic agent, we run tests to confirm that your pet's organs are functioning properly and to find possible hidden health conditions that could put your pet at risk. Collecting the blood takes only a few minutes and the information it provides is valuable. In addition to diagnostics prior to surgery, we highly recommend blood work every year during your pet's annual checkup for the same reason – to find hidden health conditions or to monitor conditions we know about. Routine blood work also provides a baseline for your pet's "normal" to compare with when your pet is sick.

Depending on the profile chosen, it may evaluate:

Liver	Liver Disease, Cushing's Syndrome, abnormalities resulting from long-term medication, obstruction of bile ducts, dehydration
Heart and Lungs	Heart Worm Disease, Heart Disease
Thyroid	Thyroid Disease
Kidney	Kidney Disease or Failure, infection, stones, cancer, abnormalities from long-term medication
Pancreas and Intestine	Pancreatitis, Diabetes mellitus, abnormalities from long-term medication
Complete Blood Count	Anemia, inflammation, infection, stress, Leukemia, bleeding problems, hydration

In addition to blood work, your Veterinarian might suggest a Urinalysis to assess urinary tract infection, kidney function, or kidney infection.



## Kitten Behaviour

“Socialization” is getting your kitten used to people, other animals, and experiences such as car rides, grooming, vacuum cleaners, and noises. This involves gently exposing kittens to new things that they will deal with regularly as adults so that they can react confidently and appropriately rather than fearfully or with anxiety. Socialization is especially important for orphans because they received little if any interaction with their family and may have no basis at all for how to act around others. Breed, health, and personality also play a factor in the way a pet behaves with others, even if properly socialized. Some cats are not as outgoing or social as others and do not enjoy spending time with big groups of people or animals. Socialization is not necessarily about teaching them to want these interactions, but more about teaching them how to handle themselves and communicate appropriately within their environments. Developmentally, the best time for socialization is between 3-9 weeks in kittens. During this period, they form relationships and attachments easily. Their senses are more developed, they are more independent, and they are physically capable enough to interact with others. During this key socialization period, any experiences that occur will have long-lasting effects on a kitten’s future learning and interactions with others. Unfortunately, that means negative experiences will also have lasting effects. It is critical that this time period be positive and safe. When socializing, it is important to minimize discipline or training as this takes your pet’s attention away from the new experiences. If your pet reacts with fear, scale back the interaction to the level kitten is comfortable. This could mean letting them watch instead of play, distracting them with treats, or moving them farther away from whatever they are afraid of until they become comfortable. Never punish a fearful kitten if they are anxious during interactions. This is an important time in their development and creating fearful situations will only lead to more problems in the future. It is also fine for a pet to not interact during these times as socialization is a time for watching and learning; just remember to keep things relaxed.



Cats enjoy better mental health when they have sources of stimulation – consider interactive toys (think squeaking mice, flopping fish toys, chasing ribbon), a house mate, dedicated play time with family members, or a “Catio” (screened-in outdoor space to explore and watch birds).

Litter Box Training – kittens will naturally void in litter-like material. Unfortunately, sometimes they may confuse their litter box with your plant soil if they are new to your home! At first, it may be helpful to keep your kitten and their litter box in close proximity, so the kitten doesn’t wander too far away. Cats can be fussy – they may not like certain textures of litter, or scented litter. The litter box should be cleaned at least daily and kept in a quiet, private, easily accessible area of the house. There should be one more litter box in the house than number of cats – for 2 cats, 3 boxes are ideal.

## Boarding at Emeryville Animal Hospital

We understand how difficult it is to leave your pet. Rest assured, while boarding with us your pet will receive the best possible care. Each pet is given comfortable clean blankets each day to rest on, relaxing music to listen to, a free waterless bath after a four-night stay, and a free boarding exam every 30 days performed by a Registered Veterinary Technician. Your pet must be up to date on the Rabies vaccine. They must also have had a negative intestinal parasite test in the last year and be free of external parasites.

Please bring your pet's food and any required medications. At admittance you will complete a form detailing your pet's feeding and/or medication routine. Fresh bowls and blankets are provided, no need to bring your own!



# Optimal Health Care for Feline Life Stages

## Pediatric Cat (up to 1 year)

- Vaccination every 3-4 weeks until over 16 weeks of age
- Fecal analysis at first visit to check for intestinal parasites
- Fecal analysis at spay/neuter
- Routine deworming at each vaccination visit
- Socialization
- Parasite prevention once monthly, year-round, for fleas, and intestinal worms
- Spay/neuter at 5-6 months of age
- Kitten food until 12 months of age
- Pet Insurance
- Introduce daily dental brushing to prevent tartar

## Adult Cat (1-7 years)

- One-year booster vaccines the annual rotating vaccines every year
- Annual fecal analysis
- Parasite prevention once monthly, year-round, for fleas and intestinal parasites
- Annual Early Detection blood testing to detect changes in organs and blood cells
- Appropriate diet depending on health status and weight
- Daily dental brushing
- Regular professional dental cleaning, depending on findings of annual exam
- Pet Insurance

## Senior Cat (8 years and older)

- Physical exam every 6 months
- Annual vaccinations at one of the bi-annual appointments
- Annual fecal analysis
- Annual urine analysis
- Annual Early Detection blood work
- Parasite prevention once monthly, year-round, for fleas and intestinal worms
- Senior or weight control diet
- Daily dental brushing
- Regular professional dental cleaning, depending on finding of bi-annual exam
- Joint supplementation for prevention and treatment of arthritis
- Pet Insurance



## Prepare For The Unexpected

What better way to enjoy your new family member than knowing there won't be financial strain if an emergency arises. Each **pet insurance** company offers different plan prices which include different treatments from emergency surgery and hospital stays to specialist appointments to your basic annual wellness visits, vaccines, and medications. Some companies even cover boarding, lost pet advertising, holiday cancellation and cremation/burial. It is best to do some research to find out which company and plan will fit your family the best.

Trupanion	<a href="http://www.trupanion.ca">www.trupanion.ca</a>
Ontario Veterinary Medical Association	<a href="http://www.ovmapetinsurance.com">www.ovmapetinsurance.com</a>
Pet Secure	<a href="http://www.petsecure.com">www.petsecure.com</a>
24 Pet Watch	<a href="http://www.24petwatch.com/ca">www.24petwatch.com/ca</a>
Petplan	<a href="http://www.gopetplan.ca">www.gopetplan.ca</a>
Peppermint	<a href="http://www.mypeppermint.ca">www.mypeppermint.ca</a>
Plus many more available online!	

**Microchipping** is an affordable, safe, and permanent form of identification that cannot be lost or removed like tags and will not fade like tattoos. The microchip is the size of a grain of rice and is inserted just under the loose skin at the back of the neck using a needle similar to that with which vaccines are given. It is nearly painless and can be done when your pet is awake or anesthetized. When the chip is



scanned, a series of numbers are entered into a database that contains your contact information. With administration of a microchip, your pet will also receive a tag to wear in the event the finder does not have a microchip scanner (although it is easy to find a scanner – all vet offices and humane societies will have them). Cats, dogs, and rabbits should be microchipped.



1 in 3 pets will go missing in their lifetime. A collar tag is not enough as it can get damaged or fall off.



An implantable microchip provides a permanent, tamper proof means of animal identification.



Pets with microchips are up to 20 times more likely to be reunited with their owners.