

EAST ORANGE ANIMAL HOSPITAL 11937 EAST COLONIAL DRIVE ORLANDQ FL 32826

> 407-275-3856 WWW.EASTORANGEVET.COM

### **Your Cat's Healthcare**

The Doctors and staff here at East Orange Animal Hospital welcome you to our practice. Our goal is to help your pet enjoy many years of good health and happiness. Our emphasis on preventative healthcare will help you and your pet avoid unnecessary and costly illness. Feel free to ask our staff about any health concerns or details of our health program.

#### **Vaccinations**

We provide complete kitten wellness and vaccination protocols and annual wellness testing and vaccinations for adult cats. We also offer vaccine titers for

adult pets, and special protocols for vaccine sensitive pets, and feline Purevax, a non-adjvented rabies vaccine for cats. Our rabies vaccine is thymersol free. See the link to <a href="mailto:pethealthnetwork.com">pethealthnetwork.com</a> on our web site for more information.

### Pet insurance

We do not endorse any specific policy, but encourage you to research pet insurance to see if it is right for your pet. Payment plans are helpful if you do not already have pet health insurance. We accept Care Credit, and you can apply here if you do not already have a card. Visit <a href="mailto:petinsurancereview.com">petinsurancereview.com</a> and <a href="mailto:Carecredit.com">Carecredit.com</a>.

### **Heartworm Prevention**

Florida has one of the highest heartworm prevalence in the nation. Dogs, cats, and ferrets are susceptible to heartworm disease. This parasite is transmitted by mosquitoes, so indoor pets, pets behind privacy gates, and pets on balconies that have no contact with other animals are also at risk. Heartworm infection can cause progressive heart and lung disease, and can be <u>fatal</u> if not treated. <u>There is no safe or effective treatment for feline heartworms; in contrast heartworm preventions are safe, very effective, and inexpensive.</u> Heartworm prevention is advised all year round, and for adult pets we recommend testing for heartworms at least annually. We stock both oral and topical once a month preventatives that are very safe and effective. We offer online access to additional products with home delivery. Visit our web site at eastorangevet.vetsfirstchoice.com

#### **Heartworm Preventatives**

**Advantage Multi** is a topical cat, dog and ferret product that covers heartworms, hookworms, roundworms, whipworms, and fleas. It is safe for use in heartworm positive dogs and cats.

**Revolution** is a topical that covers heartworms, hookworms, roundworms, ear mites, and fleas in cats.

**Heartgard Plus** is a beef flavored chewable that covers heartworms, roundworms, and hookworms.

#### **Parasites**

Parasites can cause illness in pets and people, so regular testing and control is necessary. The CDC recommends that all kittens receive at least two



dewormings and three fecal screens for parasites. For adult cats, monthly medications for heartworms often cover some intestinal parasites, but not all, so at least annual testing is needed. Bring in a small sized stool sample, about the size of a grape, or we can collect the sample during your pet's visit for the fecal analysis.

### Flea and tick control

In Florida we need to control fleas and sometimes ticks all year long. Fortunately, newer products are much easier and safer and more effective against these parasites. Avoid "look-alike" products sold at department, grocery, and pet stores.

These are often reformulations of older, more toxic products and have caused severe reactions in some pets.

Also fleas are resistant to many of the older products, and they are not as effective. We recommend a soap free shampoo like Aloe and Oatmeal or Comfort shampoo be used if you bathe your cat, since this shampoo will not wash off the product. Apply flea control after the coat thoroughly dries. In addition to the products listed below, many more are available on our web site online store.

**Activyl** is for cats and dogs and is safe because the pesticide is not activated on the pet, only after it is consumed by the parasite. It is applied to the skin over the back of the neck every 30 days.

Capstar is a pill that kills fleas within 30 minutes and lasts 1-2 days.

Comfortis is a pill available on our web site pharmacy that kills fleas for 30 days.

The cat dose is higher than the dog dose, so your cat must be able to take a chewable pill monthly.

# **Diet and Feeding**

Improper nutrition can result in many problems. Kittens and cats can have urinary tract inflammation or life threatening urinary blockage if fed foods that do



not control minerals or the urine pH. Feeding table foods or excessive treats can result in obesity or even blindness from a taurine deficency. We recommend diets that have passed AAFCO feeding tests such as Hills diets, <a href="www.hillspet.com">www.hillspet.com</a> or Purina ONE Beyond <a href="www.purinaone.com">www.purinaone.com</a>. For kittens we recommend Healthy Advantage kitten food, free choice or twice daily for older kittens. Adult pets should be fed twice daily meals of maintenance or lower calorie adult foods. Pets older then 7 years of age can be switched to a diet with

better digestibility and lower fat such as Hills Senior. Your pet's doctor will provide

the specific food needed in these situations. For more information, visit **talkspetfood.aafco.org.** 

## Housetraining

Instinct helps litter box training. Provide a litter box for each cat or kitten, plus one extra in an easily accessible site that is away from household traffic areas, feeding areas and noisy appliances. Most cats accept a fine clay litter.

Alternately sand/ vegetable composites may be accepted.

Paper and paper composites may be recommended, such as

**Yesterday's News** after surgery. **Precious Cat Litter Attractant** can be added to any litter if your cat is not using the litter box.

## **Bathing and grooming**

Getting your kitten used to bathing early will help accustom your pet to the bathing procedure. Use only pet appropriate shampoos and conditioners. Since many pets will also be using flea control products, a soap free shampoo such as **Aloe and Oatmeal shampoo** is recommended since these products will not wash off your pet's flea prevention. Pets can be bathed every 1 to 4 weeks, since good quality shampoos will allow frequent bathing without harm to your pet's coat. For dry coats a conditioner such as **Comfort conditioner**, can be applied after bathing. The pet's eyes should be protected from soap burn with **Optixcare** eye ointment ¼ inch ribbon in both eyes prior to bathing. For indoor cats, nails should be trimmed regularly. In light colored nails, the quick can be seen as a pink triangle at the base of the nails. Regularly handling kittens feet will make them more tolerant of nail trims, since this area is usually sensitive. Longhair pets or cats with special coat types should also be groomed regularly.

## **Grooming services**

Our professional grooming service offers cat specific coat care, trimming and scissoring. We also provide medicated shampoos when needed, hot oil skin and coat treatment, nail filing, ear cleaning, anal sacs emptied and special scents and bows or bandannas if you desire. Grooming is available by appointment 4 days a week, and some Saturdays.



# **Brushing the Teeth**

Good oral care is essential for good health. By the age of 3, 80% of all cats will have some dental disease in progress. This can result in bad breath, tooth loss, infections, abscesses, and heart and kidney disease.

Brushing your cats teeth is the best form of dental care. Start simple with pet specific toothpaste and a finger brush like **Enzadent**. Let your pet lick the flavored toothpaste first like a treat. Then gently wipe the teeth and gums with the finger brush. At first just get your pet used to having its face handled, and the sensation of the brush.

Keep the sessions short and practice daily. As you progress concentrate on the outside surface of the back teeth and the gum line. Afterwards tartar and plaque can accumulate quickly so continue to brush daily for 30 seconds.

We also offer other products that can be used if brushing is not an option. Other supplemental dental care can include **Hills** dental diets, T/D

treats, and **Enzadent** oral rinse. For a video of how to brush your pet's teeth, follow the Pet Health Network link on our web site.

#### Identification

Microchip placement can be done at any time during your pets visit. It is a permanent and legal identification that cannot be altered or removed like a collar, or tag and will last the life of your pet. All local animal control agencies check found pets for microchips in this area. We use the Home Again ISO Universal



Chip; contact 1-888-466-3242, www.homeagain.com for more information.

## **Boarding and Daycare**

We offer a climate control boarding facility with a separate ward for cats. Optional playtime is available from a dedicated kennel staff. All boarders can be bathed or groomed prior to going home. Special diets, feeding instructions, and medications can be accommodated. We also board diabetic pets.

## **Emergency service**

We are available from 8am to 5:30 pm weekdays, and 8am to 12pm on Saturday, for appointments, emergencies, and walk-ins. Although our office hours will be



convenient for most of your pet's medial care, occasionally your pet may need attention overnight or on a holiday. Emergency clinic information is available on our answering machine if you reach us after hours. The Veterinary Emergency Clinics of Central Florida, in operation since 1979, have 4 locations, Casselberry, South Orlando, Waterford Lakes (East Orlando),and

Lakeland. Call 407-644-4449 and select clinic closest to you. The Veterinary Emergency Clinic works closely with your veterinarian to insure the best care for your pet.

# **Toxin Exposure**

The most common pet poisonings involve foods such as chocolate, grapes, raisins, avocados, and sugar free items that contain xylitol; people medications; using dog products on cats or livestock medications on dogs and cats; household cleaners and pesticides; lithium batteries or coins; chemicals such as antifreeze and rodent baits, and plants such as mushrooms and lilies. If you suspect your pet has been poisoned, call us immediately at 407-275-3856 for instructions. Bring the package or box the toxin came in, if possible. The Pet Poison Helpline (1-800-213-6680), petpoisonhelpline.com has a list of pet toxins and can assist with treatment of a poisoned pet. Also, the ASPCA Animal Poison Control (1-888-426-4435) provides a similar service, aspca.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control

# Spaying and neutering

After completion of the kitten boosters at 4 months of age, a spay (female ovariohysterectomy) or neuter (male castration) can be scheduled. Pets not in a carefully planned breeding programs should be spayed prior to maturity to prevent medical and behavioral problems. When we schedule your pet's surgery, a detailed estimate sheet for



your pet will be provided. Pre-anesthetic blood tests will help determine if your pet is well enough for surgery. We will schedule your pet for a day at the hospital and you will meet the surgical technician between 7:30 and 8 in the morning of the surgery. Long acting pain relief injections are given the day of the surgery. Intravenous fluid helps your pet recover faster from the surgery, and proves access to the vein in case other medications are needed. Your pet will go home with detailed post operative recovery instructions, and a member of our surgery staff will answer any questions you might have about your pet's surgery. For spays, sutures are removed in 10-14 days, and normal activities can then resume.

Notes:			