



# In Case of Emergency - 3 Choices

If you have an after hours or weekend emergency problem with your pet, please do not delay in contacting MedVet (on Wilson Bridge Road near I-270) at 614-846-5800 or Capital Veterinary Referral and Emergency Center (on Renner Road at Walcutt) at 614-870-0480. Also newly available is the Ohio State University Medical Center at Dublin (near Tuttle) at 614-889-8070.

All three are open 24/7 for emergency and extended care. They routinely communicate with Suburban about diagnosis, treatment and follow-up care for your pet. Questions for Suburban that need a return call the following day may be left at 614-276-5479. Please follow the prompts.



**Web:** [www.SuburbanAnimalClinic.com](http://www.SuburbanAnimalClinic.com)

**E-mail:** [Info@SuburbanAnimalClinic.com](mailto:Info@SuburbanAnimalClinic.com)

**Office Hours:** Mon.–Fri., 7am–6pm and Sat., 7am–1pm

**Phone:** (614) 276–5479



*Address Service Requested*

640 N. Wilson Road  
Columbus, OH 43204 | Ph 614.276.5479 | Fx 614.276.9989



Suburban Animal Clinic

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Columbus, OH 43204

Fall 2013



# Pet Pause

Suburban  
Animal Clinic

## Your Pet's Health

- We Love Senior Pets
- In case of Emergency
- Did You Know?

## News For You

- What's News at Suburban
- We Salute Veterinary Technicians
- Staff Feature - Dawna Shroads

## Feline Corner

- Common Diseases of Cats - Part 2

## Did You Know?

1. During the fall months many pets are still biting, scratching, and chewing themselves due to seasonal allergies and flea infestations. **DO NOT** stop flea preventatives until late December, or continue year round if you travel to warmer climates or if your pet visits daycares, kennels or grooming salons. Call for an appointment to help your itchy pet.

2. Bones, hard objects to chew on, and raw food can be deadly for dogs. Bones, bully sticks (dried steer penis) and raw foods can cause bacterial disease, GI obstruction and fractured teeth. For your dogs health - just don't give them!

3. Is your pet scooting, straining, or licking its rear end? It could commonly be impacted anal glands. Tapeworms can also cause the same symptoms. Bring in a pet fecal specimen and schedule an appointment to provide relief for your pet.

## We Love Your Senior Pets!

For most dogs and cats, middle age occurs around seven years of age. This is an ideal time for you to consider a more individualized approach to your pet's health care.

It is estimated that pets age five to seven years for every one of yours, which suggests that health problems can progress at a faster rate. Suburban Animal Clinic presents to each owner of a senior pet a packet of information on products and nutritional advice. You also get a Senior Health checklist to help you recognize signs that could be a manageable health problem.

Age is not a disease! Examinations at least twice a year, regular dental care, necessary vaccines, control of parasites, and nutritional counseling are all important to maintain good health. Laboratory blood and urine tests can help us detect early changes in your pet's health status. Other tests often include: x-rays, ECG's, ultrasound, blood pressure monitoring and glaucoma screening.

Bring your pet in for a senior exam. It's the first step in helping to make these your best years together.





## We Salute Veterinary Technicians

October 13-19 is National Veterinary Technician Week and Suburban Animal Clinic is very fortunate to have on our staff 7 registered veterinary technicians (RVT's). This ranks among the highest in private practice in central Ohio.

"Vet Techs" are the nursing profession to our practice and your pets. They are trained in nutrition and behavior counseling, pet assessment and client education. They draw and prepare blood samples, perform stool and urine tests, ear cytology and chemistry blood testing. Vet Techs perform dental cleanings and oral evaluations, surgery preps, anesthesia monitoring, laser therapy and x-rays. They recover anesthesia patients, monitor pain control and fluid therapy and make sure your hospitalized pet is clean and comfortable.

Our Veterinary Technicians help to make our practice successful and progressive by attending continuing education classes and participating in new practice ideas and improvements. They have helped us maintain the highest accreditation standards of the American Animal Hospital Association for 38 years and they love your pets!

### Our Staff:

Anne Pelleriti, RVT	Krista Dudgeon, RVT
Deanna Herfel, RVT	Dawn Archey, RVT
Dawna Shroads, RVT	Sherry Seimer, RVT
Jewel Evans, RVT	

Thank you also goes out to client relations specialist Susan James, inventory manager Joan Phillips, and veterinary assistants Laura Hendricks and Lauren Jurgens. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a Veterinary Technician, contact Kelly Fannin at Columbus State Community College (614)287-5135.



## Staff Feature

### Dawna Shroads, RVT

Dawna is originally from Farmington, New Mexico, and has now been a resident of the Buckeye State for 14 years. She attended Cleveland State University and graduated in 2003 from Cuyahoga Community College majoring in Veterinary Technology. Dawna has worked at Suburban since March of 2011. Her special interests include dentistry, animal behavior, and emergency/critical care.

A resident of Westerville, Dawna has been happily married for 13 years, and has two daughters, ages 9 & 6. Her pet family includes 3 dogs and 4 cats (with special fondness for Golden Retrievers and Siamese cats). In her spare time, Dawna is a flutist with the Westerville Community Concert Band. Along with another Suburban RVT, Dawn Archey, Dawna leads two Girl Scout troops in Westerville. Any remaining time is spent traveling, reading, and enjoying her busy family.

### Top 10 Items Ingested by Pets (VPI Claim Data)

- |              |                      |
|--------------|----------------------|
| 1. Socks     | 6. Chew Toys         |
| 2. Underwear | 7. Corn Cobs/Mulch   |
| 3. Pantyhose | 8. Bones             |
| 4. Rocks     | 9. Hair ties/Ribbons |
| 5. Balls     | 10. Sticks           |

# What's News at Suburban

• Client relations specialist, Susan James, is retiring from Suburban Animal Clinic. Susan's smile and caring attitude have greeted pets and their owners at Suburban's front desk for 17 years. She hopes to spend more time with her family, travel and relax. We thank her for her service and her compassion. We wish her well in future endeavors.

I want to personally say "thank you" to each and every person whom I've had the pleasure to know and serve during my 17 years at Suburban Animal Clinic. You brought joy, laughter, and happiness to my life beyond my wildest dreams. I've taken you into my heart and think of you as friends. I wish each of you, your families, and pets many years of great health and happiness.

Who knows, you may walk through our doors and see me pushing a cart full of cookies & donuts. Of course we'll make time to laugh, chat, and hug!

With gratitude,  
Susan James

• RVT Jill Smiley has moved with her family to the Cleveland area. Jill worked at Suburban for 7 years and will be missed. We wish Jill, her son Trey, and husband Mike, the best.

• Watch for our Suburban Animal Clinic E-newsletter sent via email in months when our PetPause Newsletter is not sent. The latest information on pet care, happenings and specials will come to you online.

• Dr. Seimer and Suburban Animal Clinic are providing complementary health care for the Franklin Township Police Department K-9 unit. Officer Joe Mullins handles "Falco", a two and a half year old Belgian Malinois. "Falco" is trained on narcotics detection, area searches, tracking, and locating missing persons. "Falco" will make public appearances and create a bridge between the police department and the community. We are proud to help Officer Mullins and "Falco" do their duty.



## Common Diseases of Cats

### Part 2

This is the second part of our discussion about recognizing the clinical signs of common diseases in middle age and older cats. Remember, early detection and intervention are vital to maintaining a high quality of life for your feline friend.

Hyperthyroidism - This condition is caused by an overactive thyroid gland. Disease incidence is increasing in North America and it can only be diagnosed through blood tests. Hyperthyroidism often causes irreversible heart, liver and kidney damage - early detection is critical. Cats with signs of weight loss despite a normal-to-increased appetite; chronic vomiting or diarrhea; increased thirst and urination; difficulty breathing; or a dry dull hair coat should be tested for thyroid disease.

Diabetes - Cats can get diabetes just like people. Signs of diabetes include increased thirst and urination, weight loss, dull hair coat, and vomiting. Blood and urine tests to detect high blood sugar (or glucose) levels are used to diagnose diabetes. If left untreated, diabetes can quickly progress and cause irreversible organ damage.

Heart Disease - Cats can develop heart muscle disease with secondary valve involvement. Symptoms include difficulty breathing or coughing, vomiting and weight loss. Physical exams, heart and lung radiographs, ultrasound, and ECG analysis are used to detect early heart disease.

Cancer - Cats get many of the same types of cancer that people do. Frequent physical exams and tests may detect cancer before it's too late for treatment. Many of today's surgical and medical cancer treatments have few side effects and can increase a cat's health span and quality of life.