


Understanding Flea Preventatives

With so many new flea preventatives on the market, it may be confusing figure out which product will work best for your pet. Here is a brief breakdown on our most popular products:

- Frontline Plus** is a topical product that uses the oils in a pet's coat to spread throughout the skin layer and wick up into each hair follicle. As fleas rub against the hair, they are exposed to the product, and within 12 hours or so, begin to die. This product also has an added medication to kill flea eggs and larvae. Frontline Plus also kills ticks, and is one of the only products safe for tick prevention in cats.
- Revolution** is a topical product that is absorbed systemically, rather than into the skin layer. Fleas must bite the pet to be exposed to the product, and shortly after will die. Revolution also prevents ear mites, roundworms, hookworms (in cats), and heartworms.
- Comfortis**, an oral tablet, is absorbed systemically and kills the adult fleas upon their first bite. This product may be more effective for pets with dry skin or other skin conditions., but does have some contraindications to consider.

For the majority, flea preventatives on the market are labeled for 30 days of prevention and recommended to be used year round.

Frontline Plus for Dogs and Cats



- * Buy 3 doses, get **1 dose free!**
- * Buy 6 doses, get **2 doses free!**

(in store coupon)

Revolution for Dogs and Cats



- * Buy 6 doses, get **2 free doses!**
- * Buy 9 doses, get **3 free doses!**

(in store coupon)

Comfortis for Dogs and Cats



- * **Save \$25** on 12 month supply!
- * **Save \$12** on 6 month supply!

(By mail-in rebate)

We strive to keep business local and our prices competitive. Plus with these great offers, you won't find a cheaper deal on the products to keep your pets flea free!

Semi-Annual Rabies Clinic

Twice a year, we offer a week long vaccine and wellness blitz at reduced cost in hopes to continue to help keep the community pet population safe and healthy. This is one of our busiest times of year because it's a great opportunity to get pets up to date on vaccines, have them screened for parasites, and have a complete physical exam.

Additionally this year, Rabies clinic week will be full of raffles and give-a-ways. Every pet that gets a physical exam with all the recommended vaccines will be entered into a raffle, with a winner each day! With the purchase of 12 months heartworm prevention comes an instant prize!

**SPRING RABIES CLINIC-
MARCH 30-APRIL 6**

- 1yr Rabies Vaccine only \$5.00
- 3yr Rabies Vaccine only \$10.00
- All other vaccines and wellness screens are discounted!

Call to schedule an appointment, space fills up fast!

Spay/ Neuter Vouchers

Vouchers will be available again this year, thanks to a special grant. Vouchers are only \$25 (this covers the procedure and a Rabies vaccine). To qualify for a voucher, your family income must not exceed \$40,000 annually. Please contact our office for more information. The Judge Executive office will no longer be handling the Spay/ Neuter Vouchers.

638 Trade Avenue
Eddyville, KY 42038

Phone: 270-388-0334
Fax: 270-388-0755
E-mail: Lyoncountyanimal@bellsouth.net



Around the Watering Bowl

A Quarterly Newsletter

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Tel: 270-388-0334

www.lyoncountyanimalhospital.vetstreet.com



What are Vaccines and Why are They Important?

Fighting off common canine diseases begins with maternal antibodies that are transmitted through a mother's milk to her pups. Between 6-12 weeks of age, those antibodies no longer are sufficient, and it becomes our job to ensure our pet's health. Routine vaccinations are one of the most effective routes to preventing disease.

A **vaccine** is composed of minute amounts of specific altered disease-causing organisms, that when administered, cause the body to react by producing disease-fighting antibodies that will recognize and fight off that organism in future exposures. These antibodies can diminish over time; therefore, revaccinating your pet as recommended is necessary to provide the appropriate levels of disease fighting antibodies within your pets' immune system.

Today's vaccines are not 100% guaranteed, but are highly effective at reducing duration and severity of clinical symptoms, if not entirely eliminating the disease. Vaccines are proven safe for your dog. It is not uncommon for a dog to feel "tired" after vaccine administration; although, extremely rare side effects such as hives, facial swelling, vomiting and trouble breathing do occur and your veterinarian should be notified of these reactions.

Vaccine protocol begins with your puppy or kitten's first visit to Lyon County Animal Hospital. At 6-8 weeks of age, the first set of vaccines should be given, followed by a booster vaccination every 3-4 weeks until 16 weeks of age. Throughout adulthood, your pet should be vaccinated routinely according to Dr. Davis' recommended protocol.

Viral and Bacterial disease can affect all pets, even those who are not in a high risk area, as many of the pathogens can be transmitted through air, dirt, our clothing, etc. A precise vaccination protocol will not only help protect your pet, but help keep the risk of disease at bay for future pets. Dr. Davis can help you tailor a vaccination protocol that best fits your pet and his/her life-style.

Canine Vaccines



Recommended Vaccines

- **Distemper**– Viral disease that affects respiratory, digestive, and nervous system.

- **Tracheobronchitis (Bordetella)**- Airborne bacterial infection that causes bronchitis and bronchopneumonia.

- **Parvovirus**– Viral disease that causes severe or fatal vomiting and diarrhea predominately in puppies.

- **Infectious Canine Hepatitis (Adenovirus 2)**- Viral disease that affects the liver

- **Leptospirosis**– This bacterial disease affects the kidneys and liver, spreads thru infected urine from raccoons, opossums, and other mammals; contagious to people.

- **Canine Influenza**– Highly contagious through contact and air, similar to the human flu.

Rabies– Highly contagious viral disease transmitted by the saliva of an infected animal; affects nervous system and is fatal. **This vaccines is required by law and only recognized when administered by a licensed veterinarian.**

Feline Vaccines



Recommended Vaccines

- **Viral Rhinotracheitis**– Herpes viral disease that affects respiratory system and highly contagious, may cause persistent corneal disease.

- **Tracheobronchitis (Bordetella)**- Airborne bacterial infection that causes bronchitis and bronchopneumonia, typically required for boarding.

- **Panleukopenia**– "feline distemper," Viral disease affecting the digestive system, potentially fatal

- **Calicivirus**- Viral disease affecting the respiratory system, may cause mouth sores, potential for chronic sneezing and runny eyes post treatment.

- **Feline Leukemia**- Viral infection that can lead to cancer and secondary infections affecting the immune system, cats can be carriers of the virus without clinical symptoms.

A Routine Visit for Dakota Turns Out to be Anything but Routine.

On March 30, 2011, Dakota (a healthy 7yr old lab mix) visited Lyon County Animal Hospital for a routine physical exam along with her annual vaccinations and tests to check for parasites. Owner, Jamie Green had not noticed any major changes in Dakota's daily activity other than seeming slightly more lethargic than normal, maybe due to just getting older. Upon her exam, Dr. Davis palpated an abnormality in Dakota's abdomen. Further radiographs showed a dangerously enlarged spleen. Dakota needed surgery to save her life from the possibility of the spleen rupturing.



After the splenectomy, Dakota recovered without complication, and today, the Green's are still enjoying the company of their lovable dog Dakota. Without her annual physical exam, Dakota's story might have had a very different ending.

Keeping your pets up to date on their annual vaccinations is important; however, a doctor's exam should not be pushed aside or overlooked. Dogs and cats can be masters of disguise, able to hide symptoms of an illness until it's too late. A veterinarian's thorough exam at least once a year may help to catch any minute changes in your pet that could be signs of more serious issues to come. Annual blood screening is recommended additionally for senior pets (over 7 years) to note any changes in the internal organs (liver, kidneys, etc) before these changes could become irreversible. Pets age much faster than people. Even yearly exams are equal to people seeing the doctor only once every 5-10 years!

Bringing you the information you need-

For those of you who use social media, Lyon County Animal Hospital wants to be your "go-to" source for health information concerning your pets.

- **Do you Facebook?** "Like" our Facebook page to keep up with clinic specials, photos, and routine posts about topics important to your pet.
- **Have a question?** Send us an email or Facebook message, and our staff get you the answers with medical expertise to back them up!
- **Do you blog?** Check out our website, Google+, and Bing for updated blog posts about various topics, tips, and new product information.