

DOG INFO PACK

ANIMAL HOSPITALS OF THE
LOWCOUNTRY

Revised February 2024



SCAN FOR DIGITAL COPY

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**SINCE 1956, THE SHULER
FAMILY HAS BEEN CARING
FOR YOUR PETS AS OUR
OWN.**

**EMPATHY, COMMUNICATION,
AND INNOVATION ARE OUR
CORE VALUES.**

**AS A FAMILY-RUN BUSINESS,
WE ARE HERE TO PROVIDE THE
BEST CARE TO YOUR FURRY
FRIENDS.**

**WHETHER YOU ARE A NEW
PET OWNER OR A LONG-
STANDING OWNER, LET THIS
PACK BE A QUICK GUIDE.**

Puppy Exam/Vaccination Schedule

*Plan may vary based on individualized pet

*Each of these includes a thorough preventive care exam done by a doctor

6 weeks:

- Fecal exam 1 of 2
- Distemper/Adenovirus/Parvovirus/Parainfluenza vaccine (DAPP) 1 of 4
- Bordetella Bronchiseptica/Parainfluenza/Adenovirus Type 2 vaccine (IT3)
- Deworm 1 of 2
- Heartworm/Intestinal parasite medication

9 weeks:

- Fecal exam 2 of 2
- DAPP (2 of 4)
- Deworm 2 of 2
- Risk-based vaccines
- Heartworm/Intestinal parasite medication
- Flea/Tick medication

12 weeks:

- DAPP (3 of 4)
- Risk-based vaccines
- Heartworm/Intestinal parasite medication
- Flea/Tick medication

15 weeks:

- DAPP (4 of 4)
- Rabies
- Heartworm/Intestinal parasite medication
- Flea/Tick medication

Adult Exam/Vaccination Schedule

*Each of these includes a thorough preventive care exam done by a doctor

Annually:

- Rabies: 1yr or 3yr +
- Distemper/Adenovirus/Parvovirus (DAP): 1yr or 3yr
- Leptospirosis (4-way)*+
- Lyme Disease*
- Canine Influenza (H3N2 & H3N8)*
- General blood screen
- Heartworm/Tickborne disease test (Flex4)
- Heartworm/Flea/Tick medication (year-round)

Every 6 months:

- Fecal Examination
- Bordetella/Adenovirus/Parainfluenza (IT3)

*Risk-based vaccines- highly recommended based on lifestyle

+Can be contracted by humans (Zoonotic)



Puppy Guide

0-6 months

PUPPY EXAM/VACCINATION SCHEDULE/GUIDE

This schedule is variable and will depend on the age of your furbaby at the first visit, previous medical history and risk assessment. Not all dogs get the same vaccines. It will depend on the environment and lifestyle your new puppy will be exposed to and/or living in. Our veterinary team will advise what vaccines your puppy will need based on this assessment.

6 weeks of age:

- Preventive Care Exam-Thorough head to tail exam by Doctor.
- Fecal exam for intestinal parasites which are very common in puppies and highly transmittable to humans.
 - We recommend 2 negative fecal tests within a 3-week time frame before we stop prescription deworming in-office.
- Puppy deworming to eliminate intestinal parasites.
- Canine Distemper/Adenovirus/Parvovirus/Parainfluenza vaccine (DAPP) - There are 4 in total. It is very important to stay on this schedule and not wait too long between visits or we may have to add additional inoculations for proper immune response. After the series, puppies will be inoculated annually or every 3 years.
- Canine Bordetella Vaccine (IT3)-This is also known as the Kennel Cough Vaccine. It is a highly contagious, airborne virus and bacterial disease. The vaccine protects against the Canine Bordetella bronchiseptica bacterium, Parainfluenza, and Adenovirus Type 2 viruses. Puppies and adult dogs are vaccinated every 6 months in our environment.

9 weeks of age:

- Preventive Care Exam
- Fecal exam for intestinal parasites
- Puppy deworming to eliminate intestinal parasites
- DAPP: 2 of 4 vaccine

Risk-based vaccines can begin to be administered. Some of these vaccines include:

- Canine Borrelia Burgdorferi (LYME disease)-This vaccine protects against the preventable tick-borne disease that is prevalent in the Low Country. This vaccine is a series of 2 injections. After the series, puppies and adult dogs will receive annually. **Transmitted by tick-humans are susceptible.**
- Canine Leptospirosis (L4)- Leptospirosis is an infectious disease that attacks the liver and kidneys. It is caused by the Leptospira bacteria that live in standing water. Infected wildlife can leave this bacteria behind in their urine. Your dog can become infected if they swim, play or drink contaminated water. This vaccine is a series of 2 injections. After the series, puppies and adult dogs are inoculated annually. There are no multiyear vaccines available. **Can be transmitted to humans.**
- Canine Bivalent Influenza (H3N8/H3N2)- A highly contagious respiratory disease caused by the Canine Influenza virus. This is not to be confused with the human flu. This vaccine is a series of 2 injections. After the series, puppies and adult dogs are inoculated annually. There is no multiyear vaccine available.

12 weeks of age

- Preventive Care Exam
- DAPP- Vaccine 3 of 4
- Risk based vaccine booster(s) as decided previously



15 weeks of age:

- Preventive Care Exam
- DAPP- Vaccine 4 of 4
- Canine Rabies Vaccine (1 year)-this incurable viral disease affects the central nervous system. It is spread by a bite wound or a scratch that breaks the skin of an infected animal. **There is NO cure.**
The state of SC requires us to vaccinate your puppy and adult dogs annually or every 3 years, depending on which vaccine is used.

Flea Facts



Only **5%** of any given flea population is on the pet. **95% of EVERY flea population is in the environment.** You may have a problem without seeing the fleas.



The cat flea (*Ctenocephalides felis*) is the flea found on **cats AND dogs.** This means you need to treat both dogs and cats.



Fleas do not jump from one dog to another. Fleas are acquired from infestation of the premises, whether that is outdoors or indoors.



Once a flea jumps onto an animal, it immediately feeds and breeds, laying eggs within 24 hours.



A female can lay **50 eggs a day, each day it is alive!!! That's 2000 eggs in a lifetime!**

Adults

Most feed within 15 minutes of finding a host and every 30 minutes thereafter. They mate within 24 hours of emergence—launching the next generation of fleas in your home.



Pupae

Fully formed adult fleas remain in the cocoon until stimulated to emerge. It could take a week or months.



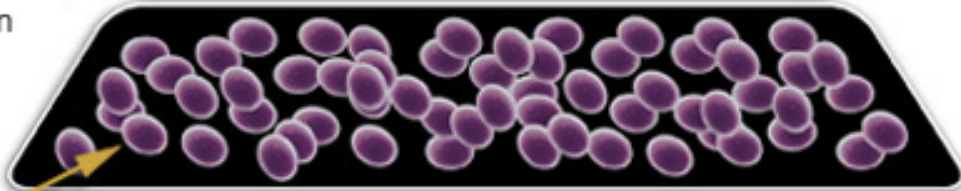
Larvae

Repelled by light, these white, maggot-like worms seek out dark areas such as carpets, where they feed on flea feces and debris. They shed their skins three times until they are ready to spin a cocoon.



Eggs

Look closely, and you can see these pearl-white ovals with your naked eye. Female fleas lay up to 2,000 eggs in a lifetime. The eggs hatch within 2–7 days.



INTESTINAL PARASITES

Pets can be exposed through a variety of ways. They can become infected through contact with infected feces, either through ingestion or skin penetration. Some parasites can be transmitted from the mother to her babies across the placenta or through nursing. Finally, parasites can be transmitted to your pets through the ingestion of intermediate hosts, such as fleas, rodents, and rabbits.

What different types of intestinal parasites do pets get?

Dogs and cats both become infected with the following parasites:

TAPEWORMS: Transmitted by intermediate hosts, these parasites feed from the intestines. The shedding resembles small grains of rice, or if dried out, sesame seeds.

Symptoms: weight loss, increased appetite, and poor hair coat.

ROUNDWORMS*: This parasite is commonly found in puppies and kittens, as it is transmitted across the placenta.

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, pot-bellied appearance.

HOOKWORMS*: This parasite causes a serious health hazard in that it attaches directly to the intestinal wall, causing severe anemia and loss of blood.

Symptoms: Poor appetite, weight loss, black or bloody stool

WHIPWORMS: Primarily a canine parasite, infection occurs through ingestion of the egg.

Symptoms: intermittent diarrhea, often with mucus and flecks of blood.

COCCIDIA: These are transmitted primarily by fecal contamination.

Symptoms: Fatigue, dehydration, weight loss, diarrhea

*Can potentially be contracted by humans (zoonotic threat)

Spay/Neuter

Through research and innovation, we have curated a treatment plan that is individualized to each animal. Reach out to us for your pet's personalized plan.

Benefits

Females (Spaying):

- Decreases the chance of uterine infections
- Eliminates cystic ovaries
- No unwanted pregnancies

Males (Neutering):

- Testicular disease is eliminated
- Decreases aggressive behavior & marking
- Decreases Prostatic Hyperplasia

Procedure

Sterilization is recommended for animals 4-6 months old*. Prior to this procedure, blood work will be performed to identify any unforeseen internal disorders.

large breed males may be recommended at a different time





Adult Guide

1-7 years

Vaccines/ Exam

Core Vaccines:

Rabies..... every 1-3yrs
DAPP/DAP..... every 1-3yrs

Risk-Based Vaccines:

Borrelia Burgdorferi (LYME).....1yr
Leptospirosis.....1yr
Bivalent Influenza (FLU)..... 1yr
Bordetella (Kennel Cough).....6 months

Exams/Bloodwork:

Preventive care exam: semi-annual check-up
Fecal flotation exam: every 6 months
Heartworm/tickborne disease test: every year
Preventive blood screen: every year
Parasite preventive medication: year-round

*See page 5 for a detailed breakdown

Parasite Preventive Medicine

Parasite preventive medicine is an essential key to keeping your animals healthy and happy. Listed below are some of the medications we use for prevention.

Proheart

Injection:

- FDA approved product that prevents heartworm disease for 1 year.

**1 Injection a
year**

Credelio:

- Flea adulticide
- Brown dog tick
- Black legged tick
- American dog tick
- Lone star tick

**Take 1 every 30
days**

Sentinel Spectrum:

- Heartworm
- Hookworm
- Tapeworm
- Roundworm
- Whipworm
- Flea growth inhibitor

**Take 1 every 30
days**





Senior/Geriatric

7-9 years

10+ years

Personalized Care



Each senior pet will receive an individualized care plan. To ease into their senior years, the following tests can be done:

- **Sr. wellness profile: thyroid test/urinalysis/fecal screen/blood screen**
- **behavioral/cognitive changes**
- **mobility discussion**
- **nutritional counseling**

Senior/Geriatric Care

Senior dogs are prone to getting diseases such as liver disease, cancer, and arthritis . Along with health monitoring, we can offer the following treatments:

Mobility

- Physical therapy
- Photobiomodulation (laser) therapy
- Acupuncture
- Nutritional support
- Nutraceuticals:
 - Dasuquin supplement
 - Adequan Injection
 - Welactin 3TA

Therapy

- Physical therapy
- Acupuncture
- Photobiomodulation (laser) therapy

Pain Management:

- Metacam
- Deramaxx
- Rimadyl
- Librela
- Galliprant

Quality of life discussion

- When to know when it's time to let go
- Euthanasia guidelines
- Grief support



General Tips

**Additional
resources for
dog parents of
all ages!**

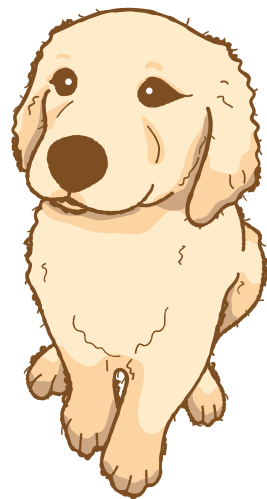
TOXIC TO DOGS

Toxic Food

- Alcohol
- Avocado
- Chocolate
- Coffee
- Citrus
- Grapes
- Coconut
- Coconut oil
- Nuts
- Raw meat/eggs
- Salt/Sugar snacks
- Xylitol
- Yeast Dough

Toxic Plants

- Aloe Vera
- Poinsettia
- Sago Palm
- Tulips
- Azalea
- English Ivy
- Oleander
- Daffodils
- Mums
- Hydrangea



Food Recommendation



ROYAL CANIN®

**We recommend
Royal Canin to all
our pet parents.
With a wide
range of
products, there
are options for all
your pet's needs.**

**You can
purchase Royal
Canin in all our
offices, or
order on our
online store.**

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<https://mpahandsvc.vetsfirstchoice.com/>

Payment Plans



Minimal
credit checks,
no hidden
cost,
no deferred
interest

Accepted
nationwide,
help for out
of pocket
costs

Insurance



Instantly
compare pet
insurances to fit
your needs.

Doctor Recommendation

Training Service



Purely Positive

Boarding

Microchip



**After hours calls:
Guardian Vet**

Emergency Vet

