

# Tri-County Veterinary Service

## *Kitten Welcome Packet*

### *Hours & Directions*

#### **Anna Office**

**16200 Co. Rd. 25-A**

**Anna, OH 45302**

**Phone: (937)693-2131**

**Fax: (937)693-3422**

**Mon. 7AM-7PM**

**Tues.-Fri. 7AM-6PM**

**Sat. 7AM-12PM**

**Closed Sunday**

#### **Sidney Office**

**3714 St. Rt. 47 West**

**Sidney, OH 45365**

**Phone: (937)492-6536**

**Fax: (937)497-1582**

**Mon.-Fri. 8AM-6PM**

**Sat. 8AM-12PM**

**(Every Other Week)**

**Closed Sunday**



**Tri-County  
Veterinary Service**



## **Thank you for choosing us for the care of your new kitten!**

We are so excited to be able to help your cat live a long and exciting life. Our doctors and staff are committed to giving your pet compassionate care and excellent treatment throughout their lifetime with you.

This welcome packet was created to help you and your new kitten as you begin your journey together. We have included beneficial information for every phase of your cat's life, from house training to senior wellness care. We also cover a plethora of information regarding flea, tick, heartworm and intestinal parasite prevention, dental health, spaying/neutering your cat, and vaccinations. Since your new family member hasn't been to visit us yet, we wanted to make you aware of all of the services we offer at Tri-County Veterinary Service in order to give your pet the best care possible.

If you have any questions over the topics covered in this packet, please feel free to contact either of our offices prior to your appointment or ask the doctor during your visit. We can't wait to meet your new kitten! See you soon!



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# Before Your Appointment

Before you bring in your new kitten for his/her first appointment, we have created a list of tasks to help us make your appointment go as smoothly as possible while allowing you to get the most out of what we offer here at Tri-County Veterinary Service.

## Previous Vaccination Records

Most breeders, shelters, and rescues give some sort of initial set of vaccines to their kittens before they go to a new home. No matter where you adopted your new kitten from, it is important for us to know if he or she has had any vaccinations prior to seeing us. If you are able, send an emailed or faxed copy of your kitten's vaccination records to us ahead of your appointment. This gives us the chance to update your account before you arrive to make your visit go without a wait time. Below are the email and fax numbers you can use to send your kitten's records to us.

Email (Both Offices): [frontdesk.tcvsv@gmail.com](mailto:frontdesk.tcvsv@gmail.com)

Anna Office Fax: (937)693-3422

Sidney Office Fax: (937)497-1582

## Pet Portal

One of the technological advancements we offer to clients is the use of our Pet Portal. By creating an account for yourself and all of your pets, you can receive text and email reminders for your pets' surgeries, appointments, and vaccinations reminders. You can also make appointment requests, view diagnostic results, billing statements, and more. We highly recommend taking the few minutes to sign up for your own Pet Portal account to take advantage of the at-home benefits Tri-County Veterinary Service offers.

If you have other pets that come to Tri-County Veterinary Service for their care and you already have a Pet Portal account, all you have to do is sign in to your account and add your new kitten!

Follow the steps below to set up your Pet Portal account.

1. Open your web browser & visit [www.tricountyvet.com](http://www.tricountyvet.com)
2. Hover over our "Pet Portal" tab and select whether you are an Anna or Sidney client.
3. Scroll down and click "Your first time logging in? Sign up here!"
4. Enter in your personal information and click "Next".
5. A confirmation email will be sent to you with access to the Pet Portal.
6. Simply log in with the same credentials you used to sign up.

If you have any questions or problems signing up, feel free to contact our office to help you.

*Tri-County Veterinary  
Service Online*

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**Website:**

**[www.tricountyvet.com](http://www.tricountyvet.com)**

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**Facebook:**

**[www.facebook.com/  
TriCountyVetService](http://www.facebook.com/TriCountyVetService)**

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**Our Main Instagram:**

**[@tricountyvet](https://www.instagram.com/tricountyvet)**

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**Our Office Cat's Instagram:**

**[@CatsOfTCVS](https://www.instagram.com/CatsOfTCVS)**

**(Meet our Office Cats: Leroy,  
Lily, and Crappy-Eye Joe)**



# Vaccination & Spay/Neuter Starter Plan for Your Kitten

A couple common questions we are asked when clients bring in their new kitten are “When do we vaccinate?” and “What vaccines will be given at the appointment?”. Below is a list of appropriate age, vaccines, and other necessary tasks that are performed during your kitten’s first few visits with us at Tri-County Veterinary Service.

## 8-9 Weeks Old

- 4-Way Feline Distemper Vaccine
- Feline Leukemia Vaccine
- Wormer for internal parasites provided at no cost with first set of vaccinations
- 1 Month Revolution



## 12 Weeks

- 4-Way Feline Distemper Vaccine - 2nd Booster
- Feline Leukemia Vaccine - 2nd Booster
- Rabies Vaccine - 1 Year Protection
- Fecal exam for internal parasites
- 1 Month Revolution

## 6-8 Months

- Spay (Female) or Neuter (Male). See Page 9 for further information.
- Front Paws Declaw - Optional. See Page 10 for further information.
- Home Again Microchip Implant - Optional. For more information on our microchips, see page 12.
- Pre-Operative Blood Work - Optional but recommended. The test will screen the liver and kidney enzymes to make sure your pet is healthy prior to anesthesia.
- Flea/Tick/Heartworm Prevention

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# Care of Your Pet After Vaccinations

- All of the vaccinations given at Tri-County Veterinary Service are effective and safe. However, some pets may experience mild side effects after their vaccinations, similar to what some humans may experience. Millions of pets are vaccinated every year without any problems. Vaccinations save countless lives and prevent devastating infectious diseases from threatening our pet loved ones. Some of the most common mild side effects of vaccinations include:
  - Redness, mild swelling, and tenderness at the vaccination site
  - Decreased activity levels (fatigue)
  - Loss of appetite
  - Low-grade fever
  - Nasal discharge, sneezing, coughing or other respiratory symptoms, which may occur up to 2-4 days after an intranasal vaccine (vaccination with drops or sprays via the nostrils) is administered.
  - Small, firm nodule at the vaccination site. This should shrink and vanish within 14 days.

## *More Serious Side Effects*

**Sometimes your pet may experience more serious side effects within minutes to hours after the vaccinations are received. These are considered medical emergencies and medical care should be sought immediately if any of these symptoms occur:**

- **Collapse or fainting**
- **Difficulty breathing**
- **Persistent and severe coughing**
- **Hives - small, red, raised, itchy bumps all over the body**
- **Swollen or puffy eyes, muzzle, or face**
- **Persistent vomiting or diarrhea**

**It is important to closely monitor your pet and report any issues to Tri-County Veterinary Service as soon as possible, especially at early appointments. If any issues occur, we can help your pet by giving medical treatment and making sure they are better cared for at future vaccination appointments.**



# Flea, Tick, Heartworm & Internal Parasite Prevention

Tri-County Veterinary Service recommends year round prevention for fleas, ticks, heartworm and internal parasites. Ohio weather and its seasons can be extremely difficult to predict when warmer weather will bring parasites back and when colder weather will kill them off. By keeping your dog on year round preventatives, you can ensure that he or she will remain protected no matter what the weather brings. Our clinic carries a variety of options for prevention in many forms and combinations. Below we have included a list of the current preventatives we have in stock. We also have an online store that delivers preventatives, food, and other items we recommend to your door. If you have any questions about finding the best options for your pet, feel free to call our office or ask the doctor at your dog's visit.

## Flea & Tick Monthly Prevention



## Flea/Tick/Heartworm/Mites/Internal Parasite Monthly Prevention



## Our Online Store

Go to [www.tricountyvetservice.com](http://www.tricountyvetservice.com) and click "Online Vet Store" in the upper right-hand corner to shop!



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# Kitten Care

We at Tri-County Veterinary Service want to make sure you are fully prepared to care for your new furry family member. Below we have listed supplies you may need, what to feed your kitten, and other pertinent information that will get you started on the right track.

## NEVER Give Your Cat or Kitten:

- Alcoholic drinks
- Chocolate
- Coffee
- Grapes or raisins
- Moldy or spoiled food
- Onions, garlic and chives
- Bones
- Tomato plants
- Unripe fruit
- Yeast dough
- Any houseplants - some are poisonous



## Supplies You Need:

- Premium quality cat food and treats for the right breed and size
- Food and water bowls
- Safe toys
- Cat brush
- Cat toothpaste and toothbrush
- “Breakaway” collar and ID tag
- Microchip for both indoor and outdoor cats
- Scratching post/pad
- Litter box - one per cat, plus one extra
- Litter - Scoopable is best. Don’t use dusty or perfumed litter
- Cat carrier
- Cat nail clippers
- Cat condo or bed

## *Feeding Your Kitten or Cat*

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- **Kittens (under 6 months): 3-4 times a day**
- **Over 6 months: Feed twice daily (amount depends on food type and cat activity level)**
- **Avoid giving your cat too many treats since cats become overweight as they age.**

# Kitten Care Continued

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## Daily Chores

- Feed and water your cat
- Clean litter box
- Clean water/food bowls
- Play with your cat

## Weekly Chores

- Thoroughly clean the litter box using a mild soap and replace litter
- Brush teeth once
- Brush hair gently twice

## Monthly Chores

- Check to see if nails need to be trimmed.

## Yearly Chores

- Take your cat to the veterinarian for a check-up



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## How to Give Your Kitten or Cat Medication

Getting a cat to take a pill can be like a bad comedy routine if you have a strong-willed cat who doesn't want to swallow a pill. Here are some tricks you can try:

- **Liquid medication instead of a pill:** Ask if there is a liquid alternative. If not already made, some can be compounded into a chicken or tuna-flavored liquid. Ask one of our veterinarians what is available.
- **Crushed and mixed into canned food:** Ask one of our veterinarians if you can crush the pill or cut it into tiny bits then mix it into very fragrant canned cat food when they are hungry. Only try this if you have an extra pill, as your cat might refuse to eat it.
- **Hide in pill pockets:** Pill pockets, or any variety of these, are soft treats you can mold around the pill so your cat will eat it. If it is a bigger pill, ask one of our veterinarians if you can cut the pill up (make sure to ask first as some pills have a coating that shouldn't be cut). Try giving several of these treats, not letting your cat know which one actually has the medication in it.

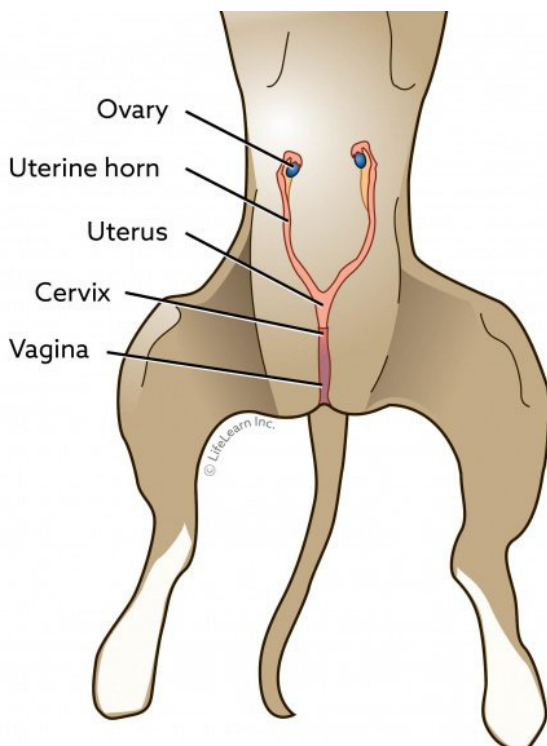
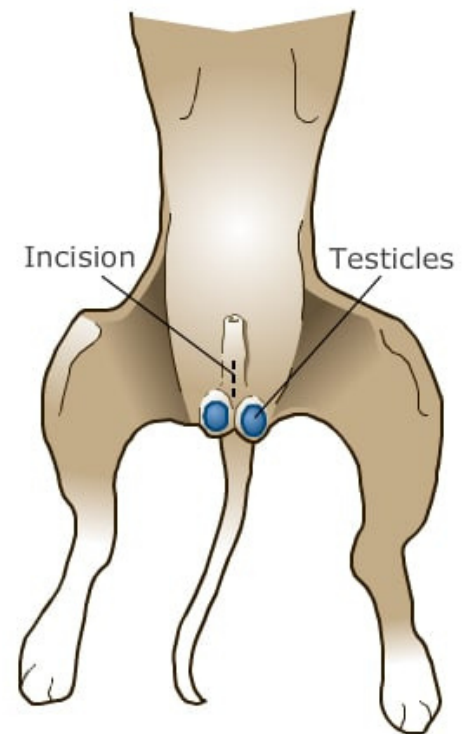


# Spaying/Neutering Your Cat

Whether you have a male or female pet, it is important to know the benefits of these procedures. Both surgeries remove the capability of your pet to reproduce, protect from reproductive diseases, bacterial infections, and several types of cancer. These procedures also help reduce and even eliminate problem behaviors such as regular heat cycles, marking territory, humping, and fighting. By limiting and controlling the overpopulation of cats and dogs, we can also support our local animal shelters by reducing the number of homeless animals they care for.

Both spays and neuters are performed under general anesthetic, which removes all pain and consciousness for the duration of the surgery. For females, a spay procedure involves removing the ovaries and uterus entirely from the body while a male neuter procedure removes the testicles. Our doctors recommend considering a spay or neuter procedure for pets at six months of age, as this is the age that puppies and kittens reach reproductive maturity and can handle anesthetic at a greater capacity.

If you have questions regarding our spay and neuter procedures or want to decide the best choice for your pet, please feel free to call either one of our offices.



## *Home Again Microchip*



Tri-County Veterinary Service offers microchip implanting and registration. Many pet owners assume that a microchip requires general anesthetic to be done. In reality, the Home Again Microchip is approximately the size and shape of a grain of rice and is placed below the skin of your pet's neck. It is quick, simple, and placed with a syringe and needle.

When your pet is found, a veterinary clinic or shelter employee takes a quick pass over the base of your pet's neck with a scanning device. The chip gives off a low frequency reading of your pet's microchip number which is registered to your information. As long as you have an email address, you can register and update your chip information to make sure your pet returns home to you safely. If you have any questions or concerns about the process of microchipping, our doctors and staff can help.



## Declawing Your Cat

Feline declaws are a controversial subject for many cat owners. The purpose for declaws is to reduce damage to household furniture and other items your cat may scratch on. Most outdoor cats do not need to have their claws removed as they are needed for hunting and defense. At Tri-County Veterinary Service, we only remove the claws from the front two feet. We also do not remove the claws at the first knuckle, which is assumed by many concerned animal lovers. Our doctors only remove the nail itself. The purpose of only declawing the front feet versus all four feet is, in the event that your cat escapes or gets lost, they are still able to defend themselves and hunt some with the two feet full of claws that remain. Our doctors know it is much more humane to only perform this removal on two feet.

Unlike spays and neuters, your cat will stay with us for two nights after surgery instead of one. After their surgery, their feet are very tender and susceptible to being broken open again. There is no real way to keep a cat off their feet while they recover. In order to make sure they are healed well enough to go home without any issues, we monitor your cat a little longer than normal. When you take your cat home after surgery, we require that you use a non-clay and non-perfumed litter to ensure that your cat's feet do not become infected. We offer Yesterday's News, a recycled newspaper pellet litter, in-house for you to purchase if you are unable to find a suitable litter elsewhere.

If you are having any concerns about having your cat declawed or have any questions about the procedure, do not hesitate to call us or stop by our office.

## Dental Care

Proper dental care helps prevent many health problems as your pet ages. When early tartar buildup is diagnosed, we can offer preventative care such as a dental diet to prevent tartar buildup, a liquid wash that can be added to your cat's drinking water that has an enzymatic action to help slow down tartar buildup, toothbrush and toothpaste kits, and other products we carry or that can be found on our online store.

Tri-County Veterinary Service also offers dental cleanings. This procedure is performed under general anesthesia to remove tartar and gingivitis. We also can remove any teeth that may be causing issues, such as not eating, bad breath, or painful swelling. Your cat will spend the day with us and go home with better breath and a healthier mouth.

Most dental cleanings are performed on older cats which can cause concern for many cat owners. We have the capability of running pre-operative blood work to ensure healthy liver and kidneys before your cat goes under general anesthetic. Our doctors and technicians follow strict protocols and monitor your pet's vital signs constantly during and after surgery. If you have any questions or concerns about dental cleanings or dental care, please feel free to reach out to us at any time.



## Adult Pet Wellness Care

Annual wellness checks are important for the health of your pets. By bringing your pets in regularly, you are able to keep their vaccinations up-to-date and maintained for year long protection. At these wellness visits, our doctors evaluate how your pet's eyes, ears, teeth, gums, heart, and lungs are aging as well as detect any onset diseases or conditions that your pet may have. By staying on top of your pet's care, we can help preserve quality of life and them to live longer.





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# Emergency After-Hours Care

Does your pet have an emergency while our offices are not open? Tri-County Veterinary Service has partnered with the West Central Ohio Veterinary Emergency Service for the care of your pets after we have closed for the day. They are also open at all hours of the weekend and on all holidays. All records will be sent to us to update your pet's record and so we can follow up on the care of your pet.



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3077 Harding Highway  
Lima, OH 45804

(419)221-0269

Monday-Thursday: 6:00PM-8:00AM

Friday: 6:00PM-12:00AM

Saturday-Sunday: Open 24 hours

Open 24 hours on all holidays.