Lake Pine Animal Hospital
1200 Old Raleigh Rd, Apex, NC 27502
919-380-1157 · lakepineanimalhospital.com

Puppy Wellness & Prevention Guide

> **Your puppy's first year is critical for building lifelong health. Preventive care, proper nutrition, parasite control, and routine examinations help ensure your puppy grows into a healthy adult dog.**

Vaccinations

Puppies require a series of vaccines to protect against serious and potentially life-threatening diseases.

Core vaccines typically protect against:

- Distemper
- Parvovirus
- Adenovirus (Hepatitis)
- Rabies (required by law)

Additional lifestyle-based vaccines may be recommended depending on exposure risk, such as Bordetella, Lyme, Leptospirosis, or Canine Influenza.

Parasite Prevention

Parasite prevention should begin early and continue year-round.

- Heartworm prevention (spread by mosquitoes)
- Intestinal parasite screening and deworming
- Flea and tick prevention

Many parasites are not visible and some can affect humans. Routine testing is essential.

Nutrition & Growth

Feed a high-quality puppy diet formulated for growth. Large-breed puppies require specific nutrition to support proper bone and joint development.

- Feed measured meals (avoid free feeding unless directed)
- 4 times a day unitl 3 months, 3 times a day until 6 months, twice a day after.
- Monitor body condition score regularly
- Ask us before adding supplements, Most puppies do not need this.

Spay & Neuter

- Spaying or neutering is recommended for most puppies. Timing may vary depending on breed, size, and individual health considerations. We will discuss the best plan for your pet.

Dental Care

Early dental care prevents periodontal disease later in life.

- Begin gentle tooth brushing training early
- Use veterinary-approved dental products
- Schedule professional dental evaluations as recommended

Routine Examinations

Regular wellness exams allow us to monitor growth, behavior, and development. These visits are also an opportunity to discuss training, nutrition, and any concerns.

Preventive care is far more effective – and less costly – than treating illness later. Lake Pine Animal Hospital is committed to supporting your puppy's health every step of the way.