



WELCOME TO OUR

Monthly Newsletter



Early Detection: Because “healthy” pets can still hide problems

WHEN YOUR PET IS EATING, PLAYING, AND ACTING NORMALLY, IT'S EASY TO ASSUME EVERYTHING IS FINE. BUT OUR PETS ARE REMARKABLY GOOD AT HIDING ILLNESS.

THAT'S WHERE PREVENTIVE DIAGNOSTICS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

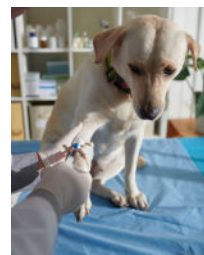
BLOODWORK, URINALYSIS, AND DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING CAN GIVE US INFORMATION THAT WE SIMPLY CAN'T GET FROM A PHYSICAL EXAMINATION ALONE. ESTABLISHING BASELINE RESULTS AND MONITORING CHANGES OVER TIME CAN HELP IDENTIFY POTENTIAL PROBLEMS EARLIER—SOMETIMES BEFORE YOU NOTICE ANYTHING IS WRONG.

BLOODWORK: KNOW WHAT'S NORMAL

BLOODWORK ISN'T JUST FOR PETS WHO ARE SICK OR SENIOR. ROUTINE BLOODWORK CAN HELP US EVALUATE YOUR PET'S OVERALL HEALTH AND ESTABLISH BASELINE VALUES FOR FUTURE COMPARISON.

BLOODWORK CAN PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT:

- KIDNEY AND LIVER FUNCTION
- RED AND WHITE BLOOD CELLS
- BLOOD SUGAR
- ELECTROLYTES
- PROTEIN LEVELS
- THYROID FUNCTION WHEN INDICATED
- OTHER CHANGES THAT MAY WARRANT FURTHER INVESTIGATION



WHY ESTABLISH A BASELINE?

YOUR PET'S NORMAL VALUES ARE UNIQUE TO THEM. HAVING PREVIOUS RESULTS ALLOWS US TO COMPARE FUTURE BLOODWORK AND LOOK FOR TRENDS OR CHANGES OVER TIME.

THIS CAN BE ESPECIALLY VALUABLE AS YOUR PET AGES, DEVELOPS A MEDICAL CONDITION, OR BEGINS TAKING CERTAIN MEDICATIONS.

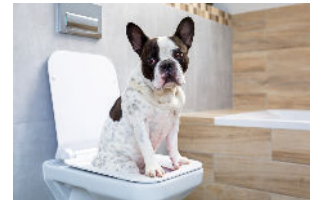
EARLY DETECTION GIVES US MORE INFORMATION—AND INFORMATION HELPS US MAKE BETTER DECISIONS ABOUT YOUR PET'S CARE.

URINALYSIS: SMALL SAMPLE, BIG INFORMATION

A URINALYSIS IS MUCH MORE THAN CHECKING FOR A URINARY TRACT INFECTION. URINE CAN PROVIDE IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE URINARY SYSTEM AND CAN GIVE US CLUES ABOUT YOUR PET'S OVERALL HEALTH.

A URINALYSIS CAN HELP EVALUATE:

- URINE CONCENTRATION AND KIDNEY FUNCTION
- SIGNS OF INFLAMMATION OR INFECTION
- BLOOD OR PROTEIN IN THE URINE
- CRYSTALS OR OTHER ABNORMALITIES
- CLUES ASSOCIATED WITH CONDITIONS SUCH AS DIABETES



SOMETIMES, CHANGES IN THE URINE CAN BE DETECTED BEFORE YOUR PET SHOWS OBVIOUS SIGNS OF ILLNESS.

THAT MAKES URINALYSIS A VALUABLE PART OF PREVENTIVE DIAGNOSTIC TESTING.

PREVENTIVE CHEST X-RAYS

YOUR PET DOESN'T NEED TO BE COUGHING OR HAVING TROUBLE BREATHING FOR US TO CONSIDER CHEST IMAGING.

WHEN MEDICALLY APPROPRIATE, CHEST X-RAYS CAN PROVIDE VALUABLE INFORMATION ABOUT THE HEART, LUNGS, AND STRUCTURES WITHIN THE CHEST.

DEPENDING ON YOUR PET'S AGE, BREED, MEDICAL HISTORY, CLINICAL FINDINGS, OR INDIVIDUAL RISK FACTORS, WE MAY RECOMMEND CHEST RADIOGRAPHS TO:

- ESTABLISH BASELINE INFORMATION
- EVALUATE THE HEART AND LUNGS
- INVESTIGATE SUBTLE OR EARLY CHANGES
- FURTHER EVALUATE FINDINGS FROM A PHYSICAL EXAMINATION OR BLOODWORK
- PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BEFORE CERTAIN PROCEDURES

IMAGING GIVES US A PICTURE OF WHAT'S HAPPENING INSIDE—INFORMATION WE CAN'T OBTAIN FROM AN EXAM ALONE.





PREVENTIVE ABDOMINAL X-RAYS

THE ABDOMEN CONTAINS MANY ORGANS AND STRUCTURES THAT WE CANNOT FULLY EVALUATE FROM THE OUTSIDE.

WHEN APPROPRIATE, ABDOMINAL RADIOGRAPHS CAN PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT THE STOMACH, INTESTINES, KIDNEYS, BLADDER, AND OTHER ABDOMINAL STRUCTURES.

X-RAYS MAY HELP IDENTIFY CERTAIN:

- STONES OR MINERALIZED STRUCTURES
- ABNORMAL GAS PATTERNS
- FOREIGN MATERIAL
- CHANGES IN ORGAN SIZE OR POSITION
- MASSES OR OTHER ABNORMALITIES



ABDOMINAL IMAGING MAY BE RECOMMENDED BASED ON YOUR PET'S AGE, HISTORY, PHYSICAL EXAMINATION, SYMPTOMS, OR INDIVIDUAL RISK FACTORS.



Hot Take



FROM DR. MATT

IT IS EASY TO THINK "MY PET SEEMS HEALTHY!"

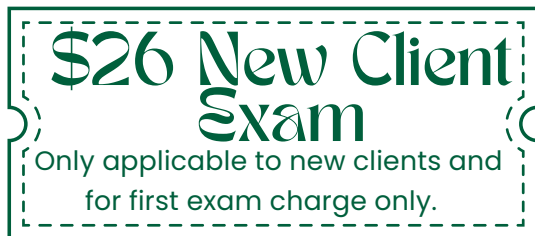
THAT'S EXACTLY WHEN PREVENTIVE CARE CAN BE VALUABLE.
PETS DON'T ALWAYS TELL US WHEN SOMETHING IS WRONG.

SOME DISEASES AND CONDITIONS CAN DEVELOP QUIETLY, WITHOUT OBVIOUS CHANGES IN APPETITE, ENERGY, OR BEHAVIOR.

PREVENTIVE DIAGNOSTICS CAN HELP US:

ESTABLISH A BASELINE → MONITOR CHANGES → IDENTIFY CONCERNS EARLIER →
MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS

EARLY DETECTION DOESN'T GUARANTEE THAT A PROBLEM WILL BE FOUND—OR PREVENT EVERY ILLNESS—BUT IT GIVES US MORE INFORMATION AND POTENTIALLY MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO INTERVENE.



Thank you for being part of our Maplewood family — here's to a happy, healthy fall for you and your furry companions! If you have any questions or need to schedule an appointment, give us a call at

563-888-5850 or **click below to schedule online!**

[BOOK HERE!](#)