



What is a Friendly Vet visit?

A friendly vet visit is when you bring your dog to the vet clinic for an appointment where good things happen to them. Your dog will enter the building and be given treats, attention, and lots of love for the entire time that they are in the clinic. Each friendly visit is to show the dog that the clinic is not a scary place and that good things can happen here.

Why we are offering friendly visits?

Many times, during your dog's life they will be brought to the vet. During these times, your dog will have many procedures done to them. Some of those things are great like treats, toys and attention. Other times things are stressful like vaccines, blood draws, x-rays and even hospitalization. Each dog is different, and many are comfortable with the small pokes and prods if they are rewarded with a good treat or attention. For many dogs, however, each time they come to visit, the treats and attention are not enough. For them the stressful things, like vaccines and blood draws, are considered bad and the clinic becomes a scary place.



We would like to change that feeling by having your dog come in for friendly visits. Each time they come in and are given nothing but positive experiences, the more comfortable they will be visiting the veterinarian. The goal is to have a happier and healthier dog while at the clinic.

What does a friendly visit entail?

Upon entering the clinic, your dog will be given time in the lobby to acclimate to the noise and smells of the vet clinic. Once comfortable with the lobby, your dog is then taken into a room and offered many different treats and rewards. The goal is to have your dog in the clinic, in an exam room, on the table and a physical exam done without them showing signs of fear, stress and anxiety. For some dogs this takes only a few visits with lots of treats and attention. For others, we may have to go slower with only a few minutes in an area over several visits. Only your dog will know how often a friendly visit may be needed.



How can you tell if your dog needs a friendly visit?

Every puppy, adult and senior dog can benefit from a friendly visit to the vet clinic and we highly encourage and welcome them. When we can make a good impression on a dog, then the next visit will be better for them.

What are the signs of fear, anxiety, and stress in dogs?



- Dogs can tell you their fear, stress, and anxiety in many ways such as body language, facial expression, and vocalization. Many owners know when their dog is scared by the look they give or the growl, whine or cry they emit. The most common signs that a dog is nervous about a place are hiding, avoidance, tail down or tucked between the back legs and refusing to leave the owners' side.

Some dogs show signs of anxiety in more subtle ways. The most common signs that owners do not always recognize are yawning, pacing, shaking like they are wet, pawing at the owner and not taking treats. Each dog is different, but many will show some or all of these signs.



How do I set up a friendly visit?

Just call the clinic at 608/781-3466 or email us at info@lacrossevet.com or eviner@lacrossevet.com and let us know you would like to set up an appointment for a friendly visit.