



Vets Love Pets!

Dr. Tammy Wilde & Associates

Tudor Glen Veterinary Clinic Ph: 458-6051



Celebrating "Senior" Month

We don't like to admit it about ourselves, but as we age, our bodies start to "wear out". Pets are the same way, and their physical condition and health change over time too. It is at this stage in their lives that we should be giving them extra thoughtfulness and loving care so that they can enjoy many more years of comfort and happiness. During the month of November we are highlighting "SENIOR PETS" month, which raises senior pet health awareness, so that you can help your valued friend and companion live longer by working with your veterinary health-care team to maintain your pet's health and quality of life.



Check-up time now comes twice a year

As your pet ages, it is more important than ever to have regular check-ups with your veterinarian. At this stage in your pet's life, it is recommended that they receive a thorough examination every 6 months, as adult cats can age as much as 4 years (in human terms) within one calendar year, and adult dogs can age as much as 3 years in the same time period.

How will I know when my pet is getting "old"?

As pet's move into the geriatric phases of their lives, they experience gradual changes that are remarkably like those of aging humans. Their hair turns grey, their bodies are not as limber and reflexes not as sharp as they once were. Hearing, eyesight and sense of smell may deteriorate and energy levels, as well as attention spans, seem to diminish. In fact, the first sign of aging is often a general decrease in activity, combined with a tendency to sleep longer and more soundly.



At what age is my pet considered old?

The aging process varies with species, breed, size and lifestyle. The chart on the left gives you general guidelines to determine when your pet has reached their "senior years" and this is highlighted in the grey shaded areas.

What other changes may I see in my pet as they get older?

As your pet ages, their body starts to wear out. The more common diseases which can occur due to age are heart disease, kidney failure, and cancer. Older dogs may develop **hypothyroidism** while older cats may develop **hyperthyroidism**. While there are many other changes that may occur, some of the more common are hearing and vision loss, dental disease, arthritis, tumors, behavioral changes and confusion and disorientation in dogs (known as canine cognitive dysfunction). These can, and do, often go unnoticed in their early stages and therefore preventative healthcare is even more important.

 feline  canine

Age in years	Small Breed	Medium Breed	Large Breed
1	15	15	15
2	24	24	24
3	28	28	28
4	32	32	32
5	36	36	36
6	40	40	40
7	44	44	44
8	48	48	48
9	52	52	52
10	56	56	56
11	60	60	60
12	64	64	64
13	68	68	68
14	72	72	72
15	76	76	76
16	80	80	80
17	84	84	84
18	88	88	88
19	92	92	92
20	96	96	96
21	100+	100+	100+

Check-up time should now be twice a year, with a complete physical examination, blood, urine and fecal analysis which may potentially diagnose serious illnesses in the early stages allowing for more successful treatment. Remember, your pet can't tell us when they are feeling poorly, and most pets are good at disguising pain. As always, your veterinarian and their veterinary health care team is just a phone call away to help in any way we can (Ph: 458-6051)



SCORPIO

24 Oct - 22 Nov

DOGS: A Scorpio dog is capable of utmost loyalty, preferring to put himself into harm's way rather than see his owner get hurt. He loves seeing his owner in good health and in happy spirits. The Scorpio dog is also charming and entertaining, and they will perform every trick they know just to keep their owner from being bored. The Scorpio dog is a born tracker, they have a terrific sense of smell, which makes them a good companion in hunting parties. They can sniff out hidden objects if they are shown what exactly to look for. This is the ideal sign to be born under for bloodhounds, cocker spaniels and any dog with an acute sense of smell.

CATS: The Scorpio cat is generous and compassionate and will help the undercat. They are a loyal friend and are intense where feelings are concerned. They have tremendous staying power and will see any matter through to the bitter end no matter what the consequence. They push themselves to the limit, only to recuperate rapidly and begin the whole process again. Scorpio cats prefer not to attract attention and are cautious in most things. They immerse themselves in a deed with total concentration - until the can opener is heard.

Join us for SENIOR PET AWARENESS EVENING

**Monday
November 19
7pm - 9pm**



This month is officially "Senior Pet Month" and we are excited to announce that on Monday November 19 we are hosting an evening forum to highlight some of the more common issues of caring for senior pets. We have invited guest speakers from several leading companies in the animal healthcare industry to talk about subjects such as common illness that can affect elderly pets, preventative and palliative care, signs to look for, nutritional information, routine check-ups and general health tips. If you have a senior pet and would like to join us for an informative evening then please call one of our veterinary health care team to book a place.

MUTTLUKS

PROTECTING THEIR PAWS FROM THE COLD WEATHER

Winter is well underway and now is the time to start thinking about protecting your dogs paws so that they can enjoy walking and playing out in the cold weather. Muttluks are not just fancy footwear for canines, they provide comfort, protection from frostbite, salt and sand, and also durability to keep paws healthy and warm. They come in a variety of sizes and colors, so why not treat your dog to a pair - your dog will love you for them.



A Date With Santa



On Sunday December 9th we will be opening the clinic from 10am - 4pm and would like to invite you to come in and have a special photograph of your pet taken with "Santa" which you can treasure forever. Not only will you have a wonderful keepsake, but you will also be making a charitable donation as ALL profits are going to "Benny's Angels" Memorial Fund. These donations help disadvantaged pets to get much needed medical attention that they would not normally receive. One 5" x 7" photograph costs \$15 and any additional prints are available at a cost of \$5 per photograph. So put the date in your diary - no need to make an appointment, just drop by.



Tudor Glen Veterinary Clinic, 1005 Tudor Glen Place, St. Albert, Alberta, T8N 3V4
Tel: (780) 458-6051 / Fax: (780) 458-0869