

The Importance of an Annual Vet Visit



By Suzanne Hladun

A visit to your vet is your first line of defense against many conditions and diseases that can hurt your beloved companion. Since your cat or dog can't speak, a wellness visit will go a long way to identifying any problems they may be experiencing.

Your vet will usually do a 'nose-to-tail' exam at your annual wellness visit that can identify potential health issues early. Your vet may find a variety of conditions that can be remedied if diagnosed early. At the very least you should have a fecal sample analyzed, since intestinal parasites can be deadly and yet treated easily in most cases.

It's also important to keep your pet's vaccinations up to date. In Maryland, rabies vaccinations are mandated by law. A pet owner that doesn't get a rabies vaccine for their pet can be fined.