



Pre-Operative Instructions

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www.springforestanimalhospital.com

Scheduling:

You must have an appointment. Please call 919-878-PETS (7387), ext. 1 to schedule your pet for surgery. Surgery is performed on Wednesday of each week with the exception of emergencies.

The Night Before Surgery:

Animals MUST have food withdrawn at 8:00 p.m. and water withdrawn at midnight the evening before surgery. This ensures that the animal's stomach is empty by the time he/she is put under general anesthesia. This lessens the chances that the animal will vomit and aspirate the vomit into his/her lungs.



The Day of Surgery:

- Check-in time is 7:30 a.m. PLEASE BE PROMPT.
- Allow your pet the opportunity to relieve himself/herself before coming into the hospital.
- You will be asked to sign a consent form giving Dr. Gore permission to treat your pet. The form will detail the procedure(s) to be performed (e.g. X-ray, surgical procedure, blood work, etc). **It is essential that you read and understand the Consent Form before you sign it. Please do not hesitate to ask for further clarification.**
- All animals are given a clinical examination prior to anesthesia to ascertain, as far as possible, that there are no obvious underlying problems and that the animal is a good candidate for surgery.
- If your pet shows signs of illness or if there are any concerns (a heart murmur, severe upper respiratory infection, food in stomach, etc.) we may refuse surgery if we feel surgery is a health risk.
- A small blood screen is recommended for all animals undergoing anesthesia. The purpose of the blood screen is to detect any underlying problems your pet may have and to make sure that your animal's body is able to rid itself of anesthesia. **Note: Blood screenings are not a guarantee that there will be no problems, but the more we know about your pet the more prepared we can be.**
- All animals must be current with all vaccines prior to surgery.
- Please be sure to leave a phone number so that we can contact you, if needed, during the day. This is in case we need to speak to you urgently to discuss appropriate further treatment, or action. If you cannot be contacted then let us know.
- Recovery rates from anesthetics are variable. Most animals recovering from minor surgery will be able to go home the afternoon of surgery. Please phone between 3 p.m. & 4 p.m. to check on your pet's progress and likely collection time.

- **Payment is required when services are rendered. We accept Visa, Master Card, personal checks, and cash.**