

Allergies in Cats

Just like people, cats can develop allergies that cause discomfort and ongoing health issues. Allergies happen when the immune system overreacts to everyday substances such as pollen, food, or flea bites.

Common Signs of Allergies in Cats

- Itchy skin (scratching, biting, or overgrooming)
- Hair loss or scabs
- Red or irritated skin
- Frequent ear infections or head shaking
- Coughing, sneezing, or watery eyes
- Vomiting or diarrhea (with food allergies)

Types of Allergies

1. Flea Allergy Dermatitis (FAD)

The most common allergy in cats. Even one flea bite can trigger intense itching and skin irritation.

Prevention is key: year-round flea control is essential.

2. Food Allergies

Cats can be allergic to certain ingredients, most often proteins like chicken, beef, or fish. Symptoms usually include skin problems or digestive upset.

Diagnosis requires a special diet trial under veterinary guidance.

3. Environmental/Atopic Allergies

Caused by pollens, mold, dust mites, or other environmental factors. These often show as chronic skin or ear issues and may flare up seasonally.

4. Contact Allergies (less common)

Caused by direct skin contact with things like certain cleaning products, shampoos, or fabrics.

How Allergies Are Diagnosed

- Medical history and physical exam
- Skin checks and parasite control
- Food elimination trials
- Allergy testing (blood tests or intradermal testing for environmental triggers)

Treatment Options

- *Flea prevention:* year-round, veterinarian-recommended products
- *Diet changes:* prescription or limited-ingredient diets
- *Medications:* antihistamines, anti-itch medications, steroids, or immune-modulating drugs
- *Special therapies:* allergy shots (immunotherapy) for long-term management

- *Supportive care: regular bathing with gentle shampoos, supplements for skin health*



What Cat Owners Can Do

- *Keep your cat on consistent flea prevention*
- *Follow your vet's diet trial instructions closely (no treats, no table scraps)*
- *Monitor for seasonal flare-ups and keep track of symptoms*
- *Schedule regular check-ups to adjust treatment as needed*



Bottom line: *Allergies are common in cats and can cause real discomfort. With proper diagnosis and management, most cats can live comfortable, happy lives.*

Anesthesia for Cats

At Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic, your cat's safety and comfort are our top priorities. We understand that anesthesia can be a concern for pet parents, and we want you to feel confident knowing that our team follows the highest standards of veterinary care.



Why Cats May Need Anesthesia

Anesthesia allows us to perform important medical and surgical procedures safely and without pain, including:

- *Spays and neuters*
- *Dental cleanings and extractions*
- *Lump removals or biopsies*
- *Imaging (X-rays or ultrasounds)*
- *Emergency procedures*



Pre-Anesthetic Safety Measures

Before your cat undergoes anesthesia, we take several steps to minimize risk:

- *Physical exam by a veterinarian*
- *Bloodwork to assess organ function and ensure your cat is healthy enough for anesthesia*
- *Tailored anesthetic plan based on your cat's age, weight, breed, and medical history*



During Anesthesia

Your cat is cared for by our veterinary team throughout the procedure. We use:

- *IV fluids to support hydration and blood pressure*
- *Advanced monitoring (heart rate, blood pressure, oxygen levels, and more)*
- *Trained veterinary staff to watch your cat closely at all times*



After Anesthesia

Recovery is just as important as the procedure itself. We provide:

- *Warm, comfortable recovery areas*
- *Continuous monitoring until your cat is awake and stable*
- *Pain management tailored to your cat's needs*
- *Clear instructions for at-home care*



Your Peace of Mind

While every anesthetic procedure carries some risk, modern veterinary anesthesia is very safe. Our experienced veterinarians and registered veterinary technicians take every precaution to ensure your cat's well-being before, during, and after anesthesia.

👉 *Have questions?* We're happy to talk through the process with you so you feel informed and comfortable. Please call us anytime to discuss your cat's specific needs

Acupuncture for Cats

Acupuncture is an ancient practice that has been adapted into modern veterinary medicine as a safe, effective, and drug-free way to support your cat's health. By stimulating specific points on the body with very fine needles, acupuncture helps the body restore balance, reduce pain, and promote healing.

How Acupuncture Helps Cats

Acupuncture can:

- *Relieve pain from arthritis and joint issues*
- *Support recovery after injury or surgery*
- *Improve mobility and quality of life in older cats*
- *Aid in managing chronic conditions such as kidney disease, asthma, and digestive problems*

- *Reduce stress and promote overall well-being*

What to Expect During Treatment

- *Very fine needles are placed at specific points, and most cats tolerate the procedure well.*
- *Sessions are typically calm and relaxing, often lasting 15–30 minutes.*
- *Many cats experience improved comfort and energy after just a few treatments, though chronic issues may require ongoing sessions.*

A Gentle, Holistic Approach

👉 *Acupuncture is often used alongside traditional medicine to create a well-rounded care plan. It's a gentle, natural therapy that can make a big difference in your cat's comfort and health.*

If you think your cat could benefit from acupuncture, talk with our veterinary team — we'll help determine the best treatment plan for your pet.

*Got it — here's a slightly longer and more educational **webpage blurb** that builds trust and encourages pet parents to book:*

Understanding Cat Behavior



Cats are wonderful companions, but their behaviors can sometimes leave owners puzzled. At Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic, we believe that understanding your cat's natural instincts is the key to a happy, healthy relationship.



Common Cat Behaviors and What They Mean

- **Scratching**
Scratching keeps claws healthy and helps cats mark their territory. Providing scratching posts and pads can protect your furniture while meeting this need.
- **Purring**
Usually a sign of contentment, though cats may also purr when anxious or in pain. Context matters!
- **Hiding**
Cats often hide when stressed or adjusting to new environments. Having quiet, safe spaces available helps them feel secure.
- **Play and Hunting Instincts**
Even indoor cats have strong hunting instincts. Interactive toys and regular playtime prevent boredom and reduce unwanted behaviors.
- **Vocalization**
Some cats are more talkative than others. Meowing can signal hunger, attention-seeking, or sometimes discomfort.



Common Behavior Challenges

- **Litter box issues:** *Often related to stress, medical problems, or litter preferences.*
- **Aggression:** *Can result from fear, pain, or territorial disputes.*
- **Excessive grooming:** *May indicate allergies, stress, or medical concerns.*

If your cat develops sudden or persistent behavior changes, it's important to rule out medical causes first.



Supporting Healthy Cat Behavior

- *Keep a consistent routine for feeding, play, and quiet time.*
- *Provide enrichment with toys, climbing structures, and window perches.*
- *Use positive reinforcement – reward good behavior with treats or praise.*
- *Schedule regular veterinary visits to address health concerns early.*



When to Seek Help

If your cat's behavior is disruptive, stressful, or seems unusual, our team is here to help. We can evaluate your cat's health, discuss behavior strategies, and connect you with trusted resources if specialized behavior support is needed.

👉 *Bottom line: Most cat behaviors are natural, but if something feels “off,” it may be your cat’s way of asking for help. Together, we can find solutions that keep your cat happy and your home peaceful.*

Cancers in Cats

Hearing the word cancer can be frightening, but it’s important to know that many cats with cancer can be treated – and often live longer, more comfortable lives with the right care. At Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic, we are here to guide you every step of the way.

What Is Cancer?

Cancer happens when abnormal cells grow and spread in the body. In cats, it can appear in almost any organ or tissue. Some types are slow-growing, while others are more aggressive.

Common Types of Cancer in Cats

- *Lymphoma – cancer of the lymphatic system, often linked to the gastrointestinal tract.*
- *Skin cancers – such as squamous cell carcinoma, especially in light-colored cats exposed to sunlight.*
- *Mammary (breast) cancer – more common in unspayed females.*
- *Oral cancers – tumors in the mouth or jaw.*
- *Soft tissue or bone tumors – lumps or swellings that may appear under the skin.*

Signs to Watch For

Cats are very good at hiding illness. Contact us if you notice:

- *Lumps or bumps that grow or change*
- *Weight loss or loss of appetite*
- *Vomiting or diarrhea*
- *Lethargy or hiding more than usual*
- *Wounds that don’t heal*
- *Difficulty eating, breathing, or using the litter box*

Not every lump or symptom is cancer – but it’s always best to have your cat checked early.

Diagnosis and Treatment

If cancer is suspected, our team may recommend:

- *Physical exam & bloodwork*
- *X-rays, ultrasound, or biopsy for a closer look*
- *Referral to veterinary specialists when advanced care is needed*



Treatment options may include:

- *Surgery to remove tumors*
- *Medication or chemotherapy to slow cancer growth and manage symptoms*
- *Supportive care & pain management to keep your cat comfortable*



How We Help

Every cat is unique. We work with you to create a treatment plan based on your cat's needs, quality of life, and your family's goals. Whether the goal is treatment or comfort care, we'll support you with compassion and guidance.

 *Bottom line: Cancer is not always a hopeless diagnosis. With early detection and the right care, many cats can enjoy more good days with the people they love.*

 *Call Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic if you have concerns about your cat's health – we're here to help.*

Cat Cardiology: Understanding Your Cat's Heart Health

Heart disease can affect cats of any age or breed. Some cats show no signs until the condition is advanced, which is why awareness and early veterinary care are so important.



Common Types of Heart Disease in Cats

- *Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM):* The most common type, where the heart muscle becomes thickened.
- *Dilated Cardiomyopathy (DCM):* The heart muscle becomes weak and enlarged (rare today, sometimes linked to diet).
- *Congenital Heart Defects:* Heart conditions present at birth.
- *Secondary Heart Disease:* Heart changes caused by other illnesses (like high blood pressure or hyperthyroidism).



Signs of Heart Disease

Cats may hide symptoms, but watch for:

- *Rapid or labored breathing*
- *Open-mouth breathing or panting*
- *Lethargy or weakness*
- *Loss of appetite or weight loss*
- *Fainting or collapsing*
- *Sudden paralysis of the hind legs (a possible blood clot complication)*

If you notice these signs, seek veterinary care immediately.



Diagnosis

Your veterinarian may recommend:

- *Physical exam & listening for murmurs*
- *X-rays or ultrasound (echocardiogram) to assess the heart's structure and function*
- *Blood pressure checks & lab tests*
- *Electrocardiogram (ECG) to evaluate heart rhythm*



Treatment & Management

While there is no cure for most heart diseases in cats, treatment can help improve quality of life:

- *Medications to relax the heart, control rhythm, or prevent blood clots*
- *Dietary adjustments to support heart health*
- *Routine monitoring with exams and imaging*
- *Managing underlying conditions like hyperthyroidism or hypertension*



Supporting Your Cat at Home

- *Monitor breathing rate while your cat is resting (normal is usually <30 breaths per minute)*
- *Give all medications as prescribed*
- *Minimize stress and keep a calm home environment*
- *Schedule regular veterinary check-ups*

 *Bottom line: With early detection and proper care, many cats with heart disease can live happy, comfortable lives.*

 *Contact Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic with any concerns about your cat's heart health.*

Cat Dentistry: Protecting Your Cat's Smile and Health

Did you know that most cats show signs of dental disease by the age of 3? Dental care is about more than fresh breath – it's an essential part of your cat's overall health. At Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic, we provide comprehensive dental care to keep your cat healthy and comfortable.



Why Dental Health Matters

Dental disease in cats can cause:

- *Pain and difficulty eating*
- *Bad breath (halitosis)*
- *Tooth loss*
- *Infection that may spread to the heart, kidneys, and other organs*

Because cats are experts at hiding discomfort, dental problems often go unnoticed until they are severe.



Signs of Dental Problems in Cats

- *Bad breath*
- *Drooling or pawing at the mouth*
- *Red or swollen gums*
- *Trouble chewing or dropping food*
- *Weight loss or decreased appetite*
- *Behavior changes such as hiding or irritability*



Our Dental Care Services

- *Oral exams during regular checkups*
- *Professional dental cleanings under anesthesia for safe and thorough care*
- *Digital dental X-rays to detect hidden disease under the gumline*
- *Tooth extractions when necessary to relieve pain and prevent infection*
- *Pain management and home care guidance*



At-Home Dental Care

While professional cleanings are essential, you can also help at home:

- *Brush your cat's teeth with a pet-safe toothpaste (never human toothpaste)*
- *Offer dental-friendly treats or diets approved by your veterinarian*
- *Schedule regular exams to monitor oral health*

👉 A Healthy Mouth = A Healthy Cat

Dental care is one of the best ways to improve your cat's quality of life. With proper prevention and treatment, your cat can enjoy pain-free eating and better overall health.

☎ *Contact Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic to schedule your cat's dental exam or cleaning today!*

Cat Dermatology: Caring for Your Cat's Skin & Coat

Healthy skin and a shiny coat are signs of a healthy cat. But cats can develop many skin conditions that cause itching, discomfort, and even infections. At Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic, we diagnose and treat a wide range of skin problems to keep your cat comfortable and healthy.



Common Skin Issues in Cats

- *Allergies – to fleas, food, or environmental triggers like pollen and dust*
- *Parasites – fleas, mites, or lice causing intense itching and irritation*
- *Infections – bacterial or fungal (such as ringworm)*
- *Hair loss or overgrooming – often linked to allergies, stress, or medical conditions*
- *Masses or skin growths – lumps or bumps that need veterinary evaluation*



Signs of Skin Problems

Contact us if you notice:

- *Constant scratching, licking, or chewing*
- *Bald spots or thinning hair*
- *Red, scabby, or flaky skin*
- *Bumps, sores, or wounds that won't heal*
- *Ear scratching, head shaking, or discharge*
- *Excessive grooming or behavioral changes linked to skin irritation*



How We Diagnose Skin Conditions

Our veterinary team may recommend:

- *Skin exams and scrapings to look for parasites*
- *Cytology or cultures to check for infection*
- *Allergy testing or food trials for chronic cases*
- *Bloodwork to identify underlying conditions*



Treatment Options

Depending on the cause, treatment may include:

- *Flea prevention and parasite control*
- *Medicated shampoos, creams, or ear cleaners*
- *Antibiotics or antifungal medications*
- *Special diets for food allergies*
- *Anti-itch or anti-inflammatory medications*
- *Long-term allergy management plans*



Supporting Healthy Skin at Home

- *Keep your cat on year-round flea prevention*
- *Feed a high-quality diet*
- *Schedule regular wellness exams*
- *Monitor for changes in your cat's skin, coat, or grooming habits*

👉 **Bottom line:** Skin problems in cats are common, but with the right diagnosis and treatment, most can be managed successfully.

☎ Contact Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic if your cat is itching, losing hair, or showing signs of skin trouble – we're here to help.

Diagnostic Imaging for Cats

At Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic, we use advanced diagnostic imaging to look inside your cat's body – helping us detect problems early and guide the best treatment plan. Imaging is safe, non-invasive, and often essential for getting answers when your cat isn't feeling well.



What Is Diagnostic Imaging?

Diagnostic imaging uses technology to create detailed pictures of your cat's internal organs, bones, and tissues. These images give us information that can't always be found through a physical exam or lab work.

Types of Imaging We Offer



X-Rays (Radiographs)

- Show bones, lungs, heart, abdomen, and teeth
- Useful for broken bones, arthritis, foreign objects, or dental disease



Ultrasound

- Uses sound waves to create real-time images of internal organs
- Helps evaluate the heart, liver, kidneys, bladder, intestines, and more
- Especially valuable for soft tissue conditions and guiding biopsies



Dental X-Rays

- Show the roots of teeth and structures below the gumline
- Essential for diagnosing hidden dental disease



When Imaging Is Recommended

- Injury or suspected fractures
- Breathing problems or coughing
- Vomiting, diarrhea, or weight loss without a clear cause
- Heart or abdominal concerns
- Dental disease evaluation
- Cancer screening or monitoring



Your Cat's Comfort & Safety

- *Imaging is painless – though sedation or anesthesia may be recommended for cats who are anxious or need to stay very still*
- *Our team uses low-dose, modern equipment to ensure safe imaging*
- *Results are reviewed promptly so we can move forward with care quickly*

👉 *Bottom line: Diagnostic imaging gives us a window into your cat's health, helping us diagnose problems early and provide the most effective treatment.*

☎ *Call Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic to learn more about our imaging services or to schedule your cat's appointment.*



Fleas & Ticks in Cats



Fleas and ticks are more than just a nuisance – they can cause serious discomfort and even spread disease. At Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic, we provide safe, effective prevention and treatment to keep your cat healthy year-round.



Why Flea & Tick Prevention Matters

- *Fleas can cause severe itching, allergic reactions, hair loss, and skin infections. Heavy infestations may even lead to anemia, especially in kittens.*
- *Ticks can transmit serious diseases to cats and people, including Lyme disease and other infections.*



Signs Your Cat May Have Fleas or Ticks

- *Excessive scratching, biting, or licking*
- *Hair loss or scabs, especially near the back or tail*
- *Tiny black "flea dirt" specks in the fur*
- *Visible fleas or ticks on your cat's skin*
- *Restlessness or discomfort*



Treatment & Prevention

- *Year-round prevention: The safest way to protect your cat from fleas and ticks is with a monthly preventative prescribed by your veterinarian.*

- **Fast relief:** If your cat already has fleas, we'll recommend products that kill adult fleas quickly and break the life cycle.
- **Household control:** Because fleas live in the environment, treating your home (washing bedding, vacuuming, cleaning) is also important.



Why Choose Veterinary Products?

Over-the-counter flea and tick treatments can be ineffective – and in some cases, unsafe for cats. Our veterinary-recommended products are:

- ✓ Safe for cats of all ages and sizes
- ✓ Effective at killing fleas and ticks quickly
- ✓ Easy to use and tailored to your cat's lifestyle

👉 **Bottom line:** Fleas and ticks are preventable. Protecting your cat with safe, effective prevention keeps them comfortable and reduces the risk of serious illness.

☎ Contact Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic to discuss the best flea and tick protection for your cat.



Heartworm Disease in Cats



When most people think of heartworm disease, they think of dogs – but cats are at risk too. While cats are not the “preferred host,” even a small number of heartworms can cause serious illness. Prevention is the best protection.



What Is Heartworm Disease?

Heartworms are parasites spread by mosquitoes. Once inside the body, the worms can travel to the heart, lungs, and blood vessels, causing severe damage.



Why Heartworm Disease Is Different in Cats

- Cats are more resistant than dogs, but they can still become infected.
- Even one or two worms can cause dangerous breathing problems or sudden illness.
- Unlike dogs, there is no safe treatment to eliminate heartworms in cats.



Signs of Heartworm Disease in Cats

Some cats show no signs, while others may develop:

- Coughing or difficulty breathing
- Vomiting
- Lethargy or weakness
- Sudden collapse or even sudden death in severe cases

Because signs can mimic asthma or other conditions, diagnosis can be tricky.



How Heartworm Is Diagnosed

Your veterinarian may recommend:

- Blood tests
- Chest X-rays
- Ultrasound of the heart and lungs



Prevention Is the Best Protection

Since there is no cure for cats, **monthly heartworm prevention is essential**. Prescription preventatives are safe, effective, and protect your cat from both heartworms and other parasites.

👉 **Bottom line:** Heartworm disease in cats is serious but preventable. Keeping your cat on year-round prevention is the easiest way to protect their health.

☎ Contact Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic to get your cat started on heartworm prevention today.

Cat Laboratory Testing: Keeping Your Cat Healthy

Regular laboratory testing is an important part of preventive care for cats. Lab work helps us detect problems early – often before your cat shows any signs of illness – so we can treat them promptly and effectively.



Why Lab Work Matters

Cats are masters at hiding illness, so changes in their blood, urine, or other tests may be the first signs of a health problem. Lab work helps us:

- Detect organ issues (kidneys, liver, pancreas)
- Monitor blood sugar and thyroid levels
- Check for infections or anemia
- Guide medication dosing
- Assess overall health before anesthesia or surgery



Common Types of Lab Tests



Bloodwork

- *Complete Blood Count (CBC):* Checks red and white blood cells, platelets, and overall health.
- *Biochemistry Panel:* Evaluates organ function and electrolyte balance.



Urinalysis

- *Checks kidney and bladder health*
- *Detects infections or crystals*



Specialized Tests

- *Thyroid, pancreas, or hormone testing*
- *Infectious disease screening (FeLV, FIV)*
- *Pre-anesthetic bloodwork*



How Lab Work Helps Your Cat

- *Detects disease early, often before symptoms appear*
- *Provides a baseline for your cat's normal health values*
- *Helps guide treatment and monitor response*
- *Keeps cats safe during procedures requiring anesthesia*



Supporting Healthy Cats at Home

- *Bring your cat in for routine wellness exams and lab work*
- *Provide a stress-free carrier and calm environment for visits*
- *Follow your veterinarian's recommendations for follow-up testing*



Bottom line: Lab work is a key tool for keeping cats healthy, catching disease early, and tailoring treatments to your cat's needs.



Contact Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic to schedule your cat's wellness bloodwork or testing.

Laser Therapy for Cats: Gentle Healing with Light

At Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic, we're proud to offer **therapeutic laser treatments** to help cats heal, recover, and feel their best. Laser therapy is a safe, non-invasive way to reduce pain and inflammation while promoting faster healing.

☀️ What Is Laser Therapy?

Laser therapy uses specific wavelengths of light to stimulate cells and increase blood circulation. This helps tissues heal more quickly and reduces discomfort — all without medication or invasive procedures.

☀️ Benefits for Cats

- Reduces pain and inflammation
- Speeds healing after surgery or injury
- Improves mobility in arthritic or aging cats
- Aids wound healing and skin conditions
- Provides drug-free pain management

☀️ What Conditions Can Laser Therapy Help?

- Arthritis and joint pain
- Post-surgical recovery
- Soft tissue injuries (sprains, strains)
- Wounds, abscesses, or hot spots
- Ear infections and dental inflammation

☀️ What to Expect

Laser therapy sessions are quick, gentle, and completely painless. Many cats relax during treatment — some even purr! Most treatment plans involve multiple sessions, with benefits building over time.

👉 **Bottom line:** Laser therapy is a safe, effective, and drug-free way to help your cat feel better and heal faster.

☎️ Call Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic to ask if laser therapy is right for your cat.

Perfect! Here's a clear, **cat-focused comparison chart** you can use for your website, social media graphics, or client handouts:



TempScan™ Microchip vs. Standard Microchip for Cats

Feature

HomeAgain TempScan™ Microchip

Standard Microchip

Permanent ID

✓ Provides lifelong, unique ID to reunite lost cats with owners

✓ Provides lifelong, unique ID to reunite lost cats with owners

Stress-Free Temperature Checks

✓ Allows vets to instantly read body temperature with a scanner (no rectal thermometer needed)

✗ Requires rectal thermometer – often stressful for cats

Comfort During Vet Visits

✓ Less handling, faster check-ins, lower stress for nervous cats

✗ More handling, can increase anxiety

Monitoring in Procedures

✓ Gentle, quick temperature monitoring during anesthesia, hospitalization, or emergencies

✗ More invasive and slower temperature monitoring

Lost Pet Recovery Network

✓ 24/7 HomeAgain national recovery service

⚠ Varies by provider; not always included

Lifetime Value

✓ One chip = ID + comfort at every vet visit for life

✓ Permanent ID, but no added comfort benefits

PRP Therapy for Cats

At Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic, we are pleased to offer *Platelet-Rich Plasma (PRP) therapy* – a safe, natural treatment that uses your cat's own blood to speed healing and reduce pain.



What Is PRP?

PRP stands for *Platelet-Rich Plasma*. Platelets are cells in the blood that help with clotting and release special growth factors that promote healing.

By drawing a small sample of your cat's blood and processing it, we can concentrate the platelets into PRP. This PRP is then injected into the injured or affected area to encourage faster, stronger healing.



Benefits of PRP in Cats

- Reduces pain and inflammation
- Promotes tissue repair and regeneration
- Speeds recovery after injuries or surgery
- Provides a natural, drug-free treatment option



Conditions PRP Can Help With

- Arthritis and joint pain
- Ligament or tendon injuries
- Post-surgical healing
- Wound recovery



What to Expect

- A small blood sample is collected from your cat
- The blood is processed in a special system to create PRP
- PRP is injected directly into the affected area by our veterinarian
- Most cats tolerate the procedure well under light sedation
- Recovery is quick, with results often noticeable within weeks



Bottom line: PRP therapy uses your cat's own natural healing power to reduce pain and improve quality of life.



Contact Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic to ask if PRP is right for your cat.



Cat Medications: Keeping Your Feline Healthy

At Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic, we understand that giving your cat medication can sometimes feel stressful. Our goal is to make it safe, effective, and as easy as possible.



Types of Medications for Cats

Cats may require medications for a variety of reasons, including:

- Pain relief and anti-inflammatories – for arthritis, injuries, or post-surgery recovery.
- Antibiotics – to treat bacterial infections.
- Heart and blood pressure medications – for conditions like heart disease or high blood pressure.
- Flea, tick, and parasite control – to keep your cat free from external and internal parasites.
- Behavioral or anxiety medications – to support your cat's mental health and well-being.



Safe Administration

- Follow instructions exactly: Dosage, timing, and duration matter for effectiveness and safety.

- *Use proper techniques:* Pills can sometimes be hidden in treats or given with a pill pocket. Liquids can be measured carefully and given with a syringe.
- *Monitor your cat:* Watch for side effects such as vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, or unusual behavior, and report any concerns to us promptly.



Tips for Stress-Free Medication

- Give medications at the same time each day to build a routine.
- Reward your cat with affection or a favorite treat afterward.
- If your cat resists, we can demonstrate safe techniques or offer alternatives.



When to Call the Clinic

👉 Contact us immediately if your cat experiences:

- Severe vomiting or diarrhea
- Loss of appetite for more than 24 hours
- Signs of an allergic reaction (swelling, difficulty breathing, hives)
- Any unusual behavior after starting a new medication



Cat Nutrition: A Key to Lifelong Health

Proper nutrition is one of the most important parts of keeping your cat healthy and happy. Cats are obligate carnivores, which means they require nutrients found primarily in animal proteins to thrive. A well-balanced diet supports strong muscles, healthy skin and coat, a robust immune system, and overall vitality.



What Makes a Healthy Cat Diet?

- *High-quality protein* – Essential for energy, growth, and muscle maintenance.
- *Taurine* – A critical amino acid only found in animal protein; necessary for heart, vision, and reproductive health.
- *Balanced vitamins and minerals* – Support bone strength, metabolism, and immune function.
- *Proper hydration* – Cats naturally have a low thirst drive, so wet food or access to fresh water is important.
- *Controlled calories* – Prevents obesity, which can lead to diabetes, arthritis, and other health problems.



Common Nutrition Considerations

- *Kittens need diets rich in protein and fat to support rapid growth.*
- *Adult cats require balanced nutrition to maintain health and energy.*
- *Senior cats may benefit from diets that support kidney health, joint function, and easier digestion.*
- *Special needs diets may be recommended for cats with medical conditions such as urinary tract issues, allergies, or weight management needs.*



Why Veterinary Guidance Matters

👉 *Not all pet foods are created equal. Our veterinary team can help you choose the right diet for your cat based on their age, health, and lifestyle. We can also recommend prescription or therapeutic diets when needed.*

Tip: Avoid feeding cats dog food, home-cooked meals without veterinary guidance, or an unbalanced raw diet. These can lead to serious nutrient deficiencies.



Cat Pain Management

Cats are experts at hiding pain. In the wild, showing weakness could make them vulnerable, so even when they're uncomfortable, they may not let it show. Because of this, many cats suffer silently from arthritis, dental disease, injuries, or other health conditions.



Signs Your Cat May Be in Pain

- *Changes in movement (stiffness, limping, reluctance to jump or climb)*
- *Altered grooming habits (overgrooming one area or neglecting grooming)*
- *Changes in appetite or drinking habits*
- *Increased hiding, irritability, or changes in behavior*
- *Vocalizing more (crying, growling) or less than usual*



How We Help Manage Pain

At Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic, we believe no pet should have to live in discomfort. We offer a variety of safe and effective options to help manage pain, including:

- *Prescription medications tailored to your cat's needs*
- *Joint supplements for arthritis and mobility support*
- *Laser therapy to reduce inflammation and encourage healing*
- *Weight management & nutrition plans to ease stress on joints*
- *Environmental modifications (like ramps, soft bedding, and litter box adjustments) for comfort at home*



Why Pain Control is Important

👉 *Managing pain not only improves your cat's comfort but also helps restore mobility, appetite, and quality of life. When pain is controlled, cats are happier, more active, and better able to heal.*

If you notice any changes in your cat's behavior, don't ignore them — they may be signs of pain. Our team is here to help identify the cause and create a personalized treatment plan.

Preventive Care for Cats

Preventive care is the foundation of a long, healthy, and happy life for your cat. Regular check-ups and wellness care allow us to detect health concerns early, when they are often easier and less costly to treat.

What Preventive Care Includes

- *Annual or biannual wellness exams* – Full physical exams help us track changes in your cat's health over time.
- *Vaccinations* – Protect against serious diseases such as rabies, feline distemper, and upper respiratory viruses.
- *Parasite prevention* – Flea, tick, and heartworm protection keeps your cat safe from harmful pests year-round.
- *Nutrition & weight management* – Tailored diet plans to support your cat's age, lifestyle, and health.
- *Dental care* – Regular cleanings and at-home care reduce the risk of dental disease and pain.
- *Lab work & screening tests* – Early detection of kidney disease, thyroid issues, diabetes, and more.

- *Behavior & lifestyle guidance – Helping you keep your cat happy, enriched, and stress-free.*

Why It Matters

👉 *Cats are experts at hiding illness, which means problems may go unnoticed until they become serious. Preventive care helps us catch small issues before they turn into big ones – improving quality of life and often extending your cat's lifespan.*

Your cat deserves the best start at every stage of life – from playful kitten to cherished senior. Our veterinary team is here to guide you every step of the way.



Early Detection of Medical Issues in Cats

Cats are masters at hiding signs of illness. By the time you notice something is wrong, the condition may already be advanced. That's why early detection is so important – it allows us to find and treat health concerns before they become serious.



Why Early Detection Matters

- *Subtle symptoms – Cats often don't show obvious signs of illness until later stages.*
- *Better outcomes – Early treatment usually means more effective care and faster recovery.*
- *Improved quality of life – Detecting problems early helps keep your cat active, comfortable, and happy.*
- *Cost savings – Treating disease in its early stages is often less expensive than managing advanced illness.*



Tools We Use for Early Detection

- *Wellness exams* – Regular physical exams help us spot changes in weight, coat, teeth, or behavior.
- *Routine lab work* – Bloodwork and urine testing can reveal kidney disease, thyroid disorders, diabetes, and more before symptoms appear.
- *Blood pressure monitoring* – High blood pressure can cause serious health issues if left unchecked.
- *Imaging (X-rays/ultrasound)* – Helps us look inside the body for early signs of disease.



Common Conditions Detected Early

- *Kidney and liver disease*
- *Hyperthyroidism*
- *Diabetes*
- *Heart disease*
- *Arthritis*
- *Cancer*

👉 *The earlier we detect illness, the more options we have to help your cat live a longer, healthier life.*

Puppy & Kitten Wellness

Bringing home a new puppy or kitten is exciting—and sometimes a little overwhelming! At Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic, we're here to make sure your newest family member gets the healthiest start possible.

Tailored Care for Every Pet

Our puppy and kitten packages are designed around your pet's unique needs, taking into account:

- *Age* – Younger pets need a series of visits and vaccines to build strong immunity.
- *Vaccination History* – We'll review any records you have so your pet only gets what they truly need.
- *Lifestyle* – Indoor-only, outdoor explorers, social butterflies, or frequent travelers—your pet's daily life shapes their care plan.

What to Expect from a Package

Our packages may include:

- *Core and lifestyle-specific vaccines*
- *Parasite prevention for fleas, ticks, heartworm, and intestinal worms*
- *Regular wellness exams to monitor growth and development*
- *Guidance on nutrition, training, and behavior*
- *Spay/neuter planning and recommendations*

Why Customization Matters

Every puppy and kitten is different. By creating a plan that fits your pet, we:

- *Protect them from preventable diseases*
- *Avoid unnecessary treatments or vaccines*
- *Support healthy growth and development*
- *Give you confidence that you're doing the very best for your new companion*

Starting off on the right paw helps ensure your pet grows into a happy, healthy adult—and gives you peace of mind knowing their needs are covered.

A Healthy Start with Extra Savings ✨

To support you in giving your puppy or kitten the best start in life, Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic offers a **10% discount on recommended preventive care during your pet's first year—including sterilization—when completed with our team.**

 Call us today at (530) 644-2424 to schedule your puppy or kitten's first visit and get started with their customized wellness plan.

Discount Details

- *Valid for pets under 6 months of age at their first visit.*
- *Applies only to recommended preventive services provided by Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic, including:*
 - *Wellness exams*
 - *Vaccines*
 - *Parasite prevention*
 - *Sterilization (spay/neuter)*
- *Excludes: illness care, emergencies, medications not related to preventive care, food, and retail items.*

- Discount is valid for 18 months from the date of your puppy or kitten's first visit.

Common Zoonotic Diseases in Cats



- A viral disease spread through bites or saliva.
- Fatal once symptoms appear.
- Prevention: Rabies vaccination (required by law).

Toxoplasmosis

- Caused by the parasite *Toxoplasma gondii*.
- Cats can shed the parasite in their feces.
- Can be a concern for pregnant women and immunocompromised individuals.
- Prevention: Daily litter box cleaning (wear gloves), handwashing, and avoiding raw diets...

Cat Scratch Disease (*Bartonella*)



- Spread through scratches or bites from infected cats.
- Can cause fever, swollen lymph nodes, and fatigue in people.
- Prevention: Avoid rough play, keep nails trimmed, and control fleas (which spread *Bartonella* between cats).

Ringworm (a fungal infection, not a worm)

- Causes circular, itchy skin lesions in pets and people.
- Highly contagious, especially in multi-pet households.
- Prevention: Prompt veterinary treatment and cleaning of contaminated areas.

Intestinal Parasites (Roundworms, Hookworms, *Giardia*, etc.)



- Spread through contact with contaminated feces, soil, or litter.
- Can cause gastrointestinal illness in people.
- Prevention: Routine parasite testing, year-round preventives, and good litter box hygiene.

Salmonella & *Campylobacter*



- Bacteria sometimes carried by cats, especially those fed raw diets.

- *Can cause diarrhea and gastrointestinal illness in humans.*
- *Prevention: Avoid feeding raw meat and wash hands after handling food or litter.*

Reducing Risk at Home



- *Wash hands after handling cats, litter, or food.*
- *Clean litter boxes daily and dispose of waste properly.*
- *Keep cats on year-round parasite prevention.*
- *Stay current on vaccinations (rabies, others as recommended).*
- *Avoid feeding raw diets.*
- *Schedule regular veterinary checkups for early detection and prevention.*

Our Commitment at PVPC

At Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic, we take a proactive approach to keeping both pets and people safe. We provide:

- *Vaccinations and parasite prevention for cats*
- *Testing and treatment for zoonotic conditions*
- *Guidance for safe litter box and home hygiene practices*
- *Support tailored to your family's health needs*

 *Call us today to schedule your cat's wellness exam and protect your entire household.*