



Noah's Ark Animal Hospital

Scott M. Stipe, Sr., D.V.M.
2623 State Highway 30A
Fonda, NY 12068
(518) 853-4838

THE RESPONSIBLE PET OWNER

A few families have all the money, cars, clothes, etc. that they need (and want) and life is not difficult for them. Other families have less of these things and have a hard time getting along. Families in both groups can provide loving homes for pets. We particularly want to help those who must live within a very limited budget, yet want to be responsible pet owners.

Unfortunately, there are many people who are not always dependable. In spite of good intentions, their pets receive poor care and are sick more frequently (and for longer times) than the more fortunate pets. Some of these unfortunate pets even die from a lack of owner responsibility.

If we are to be of any help to those people having a hard time in life, we must **INSIST** they meet us half-way on certain pet health care recommendations. We need their help in avoiding unnecessary veterinary costs and fees that must be charged.

We hope everyone will act in a responsible manner when considering the adoption of a new pet. The following recommendations should be considered:

1. Carefully consider your ability to properly care for the pet you select. This includes both time and financial resources.
2. Feed the best quality pet food you can afford. Proper nutrition is a major building block of preventive health care.
3. Ask our advice ANYTIME before you make a major decision for your pet.
4. Follow our recommended wellness care program. If you are unable to pay the full amount of each visit at the time services are to be rendered, please tell the receptionist upon entering so that we can try to work out a plan so that your pet can still be provided with the best veterinary care possible.
5. **BE HONEST** with us when you have financial difficulty. We will work with you as best we can. We are the spokesperson for your pet. It is our moral, ethical, and professional duty to always recommend the best options for your pet's medical care.
6. Be a responsible pet owner in your community. Respect the rights of your neighbors and landlord. Spay / neuter your pet at the appropriate age to help stop the pet overpopulation problem.



7. Your pet should be treated as every other family member. We would hope that proper preventive health care for your pet would be put ahead of tobacco, alcohol, and other purely luxury items. WE do everything possible to maintain affordable fees. A typical family would spend more on a fast-food meal and a night of recreation than it costs to properly protect your four-legged family member each year. It simply is a matter of *priorities*. Everyone should remember that the cost of treating a sick pet is usually much greater than the cost to prevent disease through a proper preventive health care program.