



**Franklin Farm**  
VETERINARY CLINIC

**HOURS**  
Monday - Friday: 7:30am-6:30pm  
Saturday: Closed  
Sunday: Closed

## July 2024 Newsletter

Fear Free Veterinary Care For Your Furry Friends. That's Franklin Farm.

### **Pet Fire Safety: Protecting Your Furry Friends**

Written by Wanda Hudgins, LVT, CVPM

National Pet Fire Safety Day takes place every year on July 15th, and it's a day to learn how to keep your pet safe in a fire. For many of us, pets are our family so it makes sense that we would dedicate a day to keeping them safe during one of the scariest things we can imagine. It was started by the Kennel Club and ADT Security in 2009 to help pet owners learn safety measures to protect their beloved pets and homes from fire, and it's a great opportunity to learn how to keep your fur baby safe.

Smoke detectors are your first line of defense in alerting you and your family and getting you all to safety. The recommendation is to check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in the spring and fall each year. Batteries need to be replaced every 6 months. Smoke detectors should be replaced every 10 years; you should see the outside turning from white to yellow in color. The color change is a good reminder that they need to be replaced.

Obtain a free Pet Fire Safety Window Cling at your local volunteer firehouse. First responders will see this and know to look out for any pets inside. The Window Cling has a place for entering how many dogs and how many cats are in the home. The National Fire Protection Association ("NFPA") recommends have a Window Cling on a window on each side of your home.

Use #PetFireSafetyDay to post on social media and raise awareness to friends and family about the day and ways that they can keep their pets safe from fires.

For families with kids, this tradition is even more important. Discuss your family evacuation plan. Here are a few good sources for making a family evacuation plan:

<https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Staying-safe/Preparedness/Escape-planning>

<https://www.webmd.com/a-to-z-guides/home-fire-evacuation-plan>

A common question is how do I get my pet out of a fire? The best way is to keep a collar on your dog, and leashes and cat carriers in an easy-to-access spot near an exit point so you can grab them on your way out.

Can pets cause fires? Yes. The NFPA says a stove or cooktop is the number-one cause of fires started by pets. Electrical cords can sometimes be seen by your dog as a chew toy. When damaged, they can spark and cause electrocution or a fire. Secure any cords and hide them behind furniture or other obstructions.

### 5 Facts about Pets and Fire:

- 1) The #1 tip is to have an escape plan that includes your pets.
- 2) Pets cause over 1,000 house fires each year in the United States
- 3) Nearly 360,000 house fires occur each year in the United States.
- 4) Over 40,000 pets die every year in house fires. Awareness can save lives.
- 5) There are thousands of stories about pets, even snakes, saving humans from house fires.

Every July, review and make fire safety preparations with your family. Being prepared is your best defense in keeping you, your family, and your fur babies safe in the event of a fire.



## Dogs Corner



**Dog Fact:** The Lagotto Romagnolo originates in Italy. Its name comes from the Italian phrase for “water dog.” This breed is bred to retrieve waterfowl and work in the wet marshlands. They are well known for their lavish beards, eyebrows and whiskers. This breed has a keen scent and works today hunting truffle.

The Lagotto Romagnolo are bright, affectionate and have an undemanding temperament. This is not the dog for you if you are a couch potato. They require moderate physical and mental stimulation to be happy.

## Cats Corner



**Cat Fact:** The Norwegian Forest Cat, or Wegie, is a sweet and gentle cat.

They adore water and are known to hunt and catch fish. Legend has it that Wegies were kept as ship cats on Viking vessels to keep the rodents at bay. That is how they developed their water-resistant topcoats and dense, wooly undercoats to keep them warm while on the cold and stormy seas.

The Norwegian Forest Cat is good with children, sociable and affectionate.

## PetDesk is Here!

We have a new interactive communication tool for your pet’s health called PetDesk. It is a mobile app where you will receive reminders for your pet’s health care, access your pet’s vaccine information and appointment history, access to refill history and has informative pet related articles. You can utilize the app for 24/7 online booking, request prescription refills, receive lab work results and you can receive text updates from our hospital staff.

Download the app now!



## PET DENTAL AWARENESS:

We have had a large response to National Pet Dental Health awareness. Book your pet's dental cleaning and oral health exam during August and September and you will receive \$100.00 off the cost of those services.



## RUFFerral Program:

At Franklin Farm we believe "RUFFerrals" are the greatest form of flattery. Refer a friend and your pet will receive a **\$25.00** credit at your next appointment. Your referral's pet will receive a FREE bag of treats at their first appointment.

## Celebrations in July:

In July we celebrate Shark awareness. This is a time to recognize the great risk of extinction many species of sharks and rays face and how we can act to save them.

<https://sharkstewards.org/international-shark-day>



## Cancellation Policy:

Hello Everyone: We need your help! If you are unable to keep your appointment for any reason, please call to reschedule or cancel the appointment more than 24 hours in advance of your scheduled appointment time.

This allows ample time for other clients to call and get their fur babies seen.

We understand that you all have a lot going on in your lives and unexpected things pop up, so please remember to contact us **more than 24 hours** in advance of your scheduled appointment time.

We have implemented a Cancellation Policy, as follows:

If you need to reschedule or cancel your appointment, please do so **more than 24 hours** in advance of your appointment time. If you reschedule/cancel less than 24 hours leading up to your appointment, or no show, you will be charged for the office visit fee correlating to your appointment.

When you reschedule or cancel **more than 24 hours** in advance, it allows other patients to be seen in your rescheduled/canceled spot. This ensures the best opportunity for care for all of our patients.

Thank you for your anticipated assistance!



Pet of the Month: Charlie  
Written by Kerry Burtschi

# Pet of the Month

~ featuring ~

# Charlie



Get ready for fireworks this month, because Charlie is July's Pet of the Month!

Charlie is a sweet, loving German Shepherd Mix adopted from Friends of Homeless Animals! Charlie's story is special, as he beat heartworm disease- the dreaded deadly disease transmitted by mosquitoes.

When this firecracker pup is not beating heartworm disease and taking names, he loves to go on walks and go for rides in the truck. Nothing beats looking out the window and exploring with his family!

One of his unique talents includes acting like a "personal alarm clock" because if he hears the alarm go off, he will jump on the bed and make sure you aren't late in tackling the day! We'd expect nothing less from such a resilient guy!

Bravo Charlie!

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