

## Guidelines for Pet Ownership

~~Owning a pet is a privilege and should result in~~ To promote healthy pets and a mutually beneficial relationship, the AVMA recommends that pet owners. ~~The benefits of pet ownership come with responsibilities. These include:~~

- ~~Provide lifelong care of~~ for the pet or make reasonable efforts to transition care of the animal to another individual or group. ~~This means committing to the relationship for ensuring your pet's care for their entire life.~~
- ~~Selecting a pet types and numbers that is~~ are suited to your home and lifestyle ~~and avoiding impulsive decisions.~~
- Establish and maintain a veterinarian-client-patient relationship.
- ~~Providing preventive (e.g., vaccinations, parasite control) and therapeutic health care for the life of your pet(s) in consultation with, and as recommended by, your veterinarian.~~
- ~~Recognizing that owning a pet(s) requires an investment of time and money.~~
- ~~Recognizing declines~~ Monitor and identify changes in your pet(s)' health and quality of life and make decisions in consultation with your veterinarian regarding appropriate care or treatment. This includes end-of-life care (e.g., palliative care, hospice, euthanasia).
- ~~Keeping only the type and number of pets for which you can provide an appropriate and safe environment. This includes~~ Provide appropriate food, water, indoor/outdoor shelter, health care and companionship to promote pet health, safety, and welfare.
- ~~Animals that spend extended periods of time outside require habitats that protect their health, safety, and welfare. Outdoor confinement of an animal should include provisions to minimize distress or discomfort to the animal, and assure access to appropriate food, water, and shelter from extreme weather conditions.~~
- ~~Ensuring~~ pets are properly identified (i.e., tags, microchips, or tattoos) and that their registration information in associated databases is kept up to date.
- ~~Adhering to state and local ordinances, including licensing, and leash, rabies vaccination, and other requirements.~~
- ~~Helping to manage overpopulation by controlling your pet(s)' reproduction through managed controlled breeding, containment, or spay/neuter. Establishing and maintaining a veterinarian-client-patient relationship.~~
- ~~Providing preventive (e.g., vaccinations, parasite control) and therapeutic health care for the life of your pet(s) in consultation with, and as recommended by, your veterinarian.~~
- ~~Socialization and appropriately training for your pet(s) to facilitate their wellbeing and the wellbeing of other animals and people. This includes training for veterinary care and handling.~~
- ~~Preventing your pet(s) from~~ Minimize negatively impacting on other people, animals and the environment. This includes proper waste disposal, and noise control, ~~and not allowing pet(s) to stray or become feral.~~
- ~~Providing exercise physical and mental stimulation, as well as nutrition, appropriate to your pet(s)' the species, age, breed, and health status of your pet(s).~~
- ~~Include~~ Plan for your pets in your planning for case of an emergency or disaster, including assembling an evacuation kit.
- ~~Making arrangements for the care of your pet when or if you are unable to do so.~~
- ~~Recognizing declines in your pet(s)' quality of life and making decisions in consultation with your veterinarian regarding appropriate end-of-life care (e.g., palliative care, hospice, euthanasia).~~

The AVMA encourages pet owners to invest appropriate planning and resources in pet care to maximize the mutually beneficial relationship that is the human-animal bond.