



Restful Paws

In Home Pet Hospice and Euthanasia

Pet Hospice Care

What is Pet Hospice?

Hospice care aims to meet the physical and mental needs of a pet faced with a terminal illness. It begins the moment a pet has been diagnosed with a terminal condition and the family has decided not to pursue aggressive, curative therapies. It functions on the principle that death is a part of life. Terminal illnesses and the dying process can be experienced with dignity, as an animal rests at home with its loving family.

Pet Hospice focuses on caring, not curing. We understand that serious illness profoundly impacts not only the patient but family and loved ones as well. Here are the goals of our Pet Hospice Program:

- We focus on giving pets a safe, caring, intimate end-of-life experience in their familiar home environment.
- Our care focuses on providing pain control and physical comfort to the pet, as well as educational support and emotional comfort for the family until a natural death occurs or euthanasia is chosen.
- Our doctors serve as teachers, enabling the family to care for their pet's medical and emotional needs at home.
- Families are given time to adjust to their pet's progressive disease and say good-bye in their own way in the comfort of their own home.
- We make a pet's death a kinder, more intimate experience for both the pet and his or her family.

Is hospice care right for my pet as well as my family?

Once a life-limiting illness has been diagnosed, it is time to discuss how everyone will want to proceed with care. You should learn who wants to help, who can dedicate time to the pet's care, and what your financial resources are. It is also important to learn early on whether you will assist in the natural dying process or choose euthanasia when the time is right.

Choosing euthanasia - if you will choose euthanasia, your pet can be made comfortable and your family informed on what signs to look for to indicate the time for euthanasia has come. The hospice care time will be reduced, but the level of care will remain high. Euthanasia can be chosen at any time you believe your pet is no longer responding to their medications and treatments.

What hospice care does Restful Paws provide?

Our hospice team is dedicated to helping you and your pet's bond remain strong during this difficult time. We will be a stable resource for you and assist in anyway we can. As you begin this transitional time, our team will provide the following to get you started with confidence:

- Email, over the phone consultations, and in-home visits
- Instruction on medication administration, supply use, and storage
- Information on disease progression and crisis management
- Daily enrichment programs
- Palliative care
- Help in deciding when the time might be right for euthanasia
- Aftercare options and grief support

Pet Hospice care is designed to provide your pet with a personalized palliative care plan that is right for them. We strive to make your pet's final days comfortable and enjoyable. Treatment may be modified as needed throughout and will include many of the following:

1. Pain Management
 - Oral medications
 - Injectable medications
 - Acupuncture
 - Massage and/or physical therapy
 - Reducing environmental stressors
2. Nutritional Therapy
 - Providing a proper diet
 - Fluid therapy
 - Supplements/vitamins
3. Wound Care
 - Cleaning and managing wounds
 - Antibiotics
 - Prevention
4. Household Modifications
 - Temporary ramps, carpet runners
 - Pet doors, bed placement, etc.
5. Mental Stimulation
 - Appropriate toys
 - Play dates
 - Attention from family and friends

How much does Pet Hospice care cost?

In-home initial consultation = \$425 (with a veterinarian)

In-home hospice recheck = \$375 (with a veterinarian)

Our hospice patients must be seen for rechecks **at least once monthly** to ensure the best quality of care and to continue in our hospice care program.

Because every pet's care is unique, please call us for further service pricing.