

THE LAKEWOOD LATEST

PET GAZETTE



WHAT'S NEW!

Welcome to all of our new furry faces and their pet parents. Thank you for choosing and trusting us. In the recent months, we have welcomed Crystal and Tracy to the Lakewood Team as veterinary assistants!

NEW PATIENT SPOTLIGHT



LEILANI



NEKA



TYRUS



DOODLE

*Have you met our
new doctor?*



Welcome 
**DR. SALLY
IRELAND**

GET TO KNOW HER!

Dr. Ireland joined the Lakewood team in June 2023. She earned her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from Virginia-Maryland Regional College in 1988. She has been practicing in the Fredericksburg area for over 25 years. She is married with one grown daughter and a grand-cat! In her free time, she enjoys reading, gardening, cooking, foraging for wild mushrooms, and hiking with her dog Kaya. She works with cats and dogs of all kinds, but has a special interest in geriatrics and internal medicine.

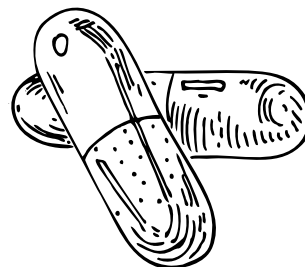


Medicating your cat

Medicating your kitty can be tricky! Here are a few suggestions that may help. If you have worked your way through the list and are still struggling to medicate your kitty, please let us know!

- Do not feed your kitty within 8-10 hours of needing to medicate. This will help ensure your kitty is hungry when you are trying to offer a treat with the medication inside!
- Coat the outside of the capsule/tablet with a thin "slime layer" of butter and place that in a small amount of food. The butter hides the taste of the medication for many cats.
- Try hiding the buttered capsule/tablet or the plain capsule/tablet in Churu.
- Try sprinkling the buttered capsule/tablet with a packet of Purina Calming Care or Purina Fortiflora.

YOU CAN ALSO CONSIDER ORDERING SOME #4 GEL CAPS FROM AMAZON. YOU CAN OPEN THE CAP, PUT THE PILL INSIDE, AND HIDE THE CAP IN THEIR FOOD OR A TREAT.



JULY 4TH, 8:30 PM

WHEN THE NEIGHBORS IGNITE THE FIREWORK MONSTER



Does your dog overreact to sounds or, as we call them, “noise monsters”? Your dog’s overreaction can be a sign of a serious medical condition called noise aversion.

Your dog’s response to noise is like a person experiencing a panic attack but with different symptoms. Some of the signs may not be as obvious as you’d think and can include:



Scared look or ears back



Whining or barking at the sound



Cowering



Being extra alert or more alert than usual



Destroying objects around the home



Freezing or unable to move



Hiding



Hurting himself/herself



Lip licking



Not wanting to leave your side (clinginess)



Pacing or unable to stand still



Panting



Refusing to eat



Running away



Trembling or shaking



Yawning

Your dog isn’t alone. In fact, 2 out of 3 dogs show signs of fear to loud noises. Of these dogs, 81% show signs of fear when hearing fireworks, which is nothing to celebrate.

Noise aversion is not “normal” for dogs but is an indication that your dog is fearful and anxious, similar to how you might react if you saw a monster! It also takes away from the special bond you’ve built with your best friend.

If your dog overreacts to “noise monsters” like fireworks, we can help. Treatment is available to help treat your dog’s fear of fireworks and other sounds all year round by keeping them calm. Please reach out to us if you have any questions!

HOW TO STOP *Destructive Scratching*

Did you know?

Scratching is a natural, necessary behavior that helps cats stretch, sharpen claws, mark territory, and relieve stress.

If your cat is scratching furniture, redirect the scratching onto acceptable objects.

Tips for choosing a scratching post:

- Choose one that's taller than your cat's length.
- Make sure it's sturdy.
- Place it near the furniture they like to scratch.
- Sprinkle posts with catnip.
- Offer both vertical and horizontal scratchers.
- Pick a material that your cat is drawn to. Most love sisal!
- Avoid carpet-covered posts if your cat likes to scratch carpeted floors.

- ▼ Spray furniture with a citrus-scented solution.
- ▼ Protect furniture with blankets or wrap sisal around the lower parts.
- ▼ Trim nails regularly.
- ▼ Consider plastic nail caps.

**See your vet for
more ideas!**





SURVIVING A ROAD TRIP WITH YOUR PET

- **To avoid unnecessary stress and anxiety, work your pet up to longer trips by taking shorter treks before taking on a long expedition.**
- **In case you and your pet are separated, be sure that all ID tags are properly affixed to your pet's collar and that they have your current contact information, including cell numbers.**
- **Update your microchip registration and pet license information to ensure it is current and consider including the name and phone number of an emergency contact.**
- **Never leave pets unattended inside of vehicles. Remember that cars heat up fast—even with the windows cracked!**

Source: https://www.americanhumane.org/blog/labor-day-road-trips-require-pet-safety/?utm_source=googlegrant&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=grant&gclid=EAIaIQobChMIs-T4itiu_wIVEKbICh2etwIKEAAYBCAAEgK24fD_BwE



**Have a safe and wonderful
summer!**



**The Lakewood Animal
Hospital Team**