

**Country Roads Veterinary Services, Inc
Ashland Veterinary Clinic**



**FELINE SENIOR
WELLNESS PROGRAM**

For cats 7 years of age and older



While your cat may *seem* healthy well into its senior years, there are many problems common to geriatric cats (like kidney and heart failure) that may not present symptoms until your pet becomes extremely ill. A comprehensive senior examination and diagnostic work-up helps your veterinarian to identify problems **early enough** to institute preventative health care measures.

Conditions commonly found in older cats include kidney disease, dental disease, heart disease, cancer, thyroid disease, osteoarthritis, and diabetes. Many symptoms of these diseases, such as drinking more water than usual, can be very subtle and difficult for owners to notice.

We strongly recommend performing a Feline Senior Wellness Program on all cats 7 years of age and older to identify diseases earlier and keep your cat healthy and living longer. This program entails a thorough physical examination by your veterinarian and five different diagnostic tests that are very useful to your veterinarian in detecting many diseases early. **Please call us at any time to schedule this appointment for your cat.** All six services are included in the wellness program for the price of \$185.00.

The Feline Senior Wellness Program includes:

- **Physical Examination** - *The single most important aspect of the wellness program is a thorough physical examination performed by your veterinarian. He/she may find important signs suggestive of dental disease, kidney disease, heart disease, diabetes, etc.*
- **Complete Blood Chemistry (CBC)** - *A complete blood chemistry is used to detect abnormalities in the red blood cells, white blood cells, inflammatory cells, and platelets (which are important to help blood clot). A CBC may indicate early or chronic infections, anemia, and other infectious and immune diseases.*
- **Biochemistry Profile** - *A biochemistry profile is used to check important enzymes and by-products in the blood that are used to determine the function and disease of vital organs, such as the kidneys, liver, pancreas, muscle, and the gastrointestinal tract. This test is critical in identifying diseases such as kidney disease and diabetes in the very early stages – before owners may notice clinical signs of illness.*
- **Urinalysis** - *A urinalysis is used to detect abnormalities in the urine that could be caused from kidney, bladder, or urethral disease. The urinalysis also tests for crystals that could be found in urine – and could be crucial to preventing bladder stones. A urinalysis is also very important for detecting early kidney disease before clinical signs occur.*
- **Thyroid Hormone Level** – *Aging cats are at risk for developing a disease of the thyroid glands called hyperthyroidism (over-activity of thyroid glands). Hyperthyroidism can cause gradual weight loss, chronic vomiting, hyperactivity, poor hair coat, and several other signs. We will test your cat's thyroid hormone to determine if this disease is affecting your cat.*
- **Blood Pressure Check** – *Many diseases in cats can cause high blood pressure including kidney disease, heart disease and hyperthyroidism*
- **Electrocardiogram (ECG)** - *An ECG (or EKG) is a simple test to determine any abnormalities in your cat's heart function. The ECG will be interpreted by a cardiologist and will provide us vital information about the health of your cat's heart.*

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