

Bennett Creek Animal Hospital

22416 Frederick Road

Clarksburg, MD 20871 301-515-8800

Dear _____ ,

Your pet has been scheduled for _____ on _____. We know that leaving your pet in the hospital can be a bit scary. We hope that informing you of what will happen during the day will help to alleviate any anxiety you may have.

All anesthesia/dentistry/surgery patients should be dropped off between 7:00 am and 7:30 am. Your pet should not have food after 9:00 pm the previous night; please pick up the water bowl first thing in the morning the day of surgery.

After being admitted to the hospital, we do our best to make your pet comfortable. Each animal is checked over by our technicians and prepared for surgery. Pets receive a pre-operative medication which makes them feel relaxed. Of course, if your pet is anxious or upset, his/her needs will be addressed individually by the doctor.

Outpatient (pets going home same day) procedures are done first so the animal can recover from anesthesia in time for discharge in the late afternoon or evening. Inpatients (those staying overnight) are done next. The surgery schedule usually runs all day. All patients recover from anesthesia in our treatment area and constantly monitored by both doctors and staff. When your pet is awake, vitals are taken and observation is continued. Pain medication is administered by the doctor if needed.

The doctor will call you when your pet's procedure has been completed. Occasionally a very busy day can delay phone calls. Please call after 4:30 pm for a progress report if we haven't had the opportunity to contact you.

Pets scheduled to go home the same day may begin food and water in small quantities 1-2 hour after arriving home (or as directed in your discharge instructions). Those animals staying overnight in the hospital generally have had a more involved procedure. We will give them water in the late evening. Food is started again the following morning.

A trained technician is on duty and monitors your pet's vital signs regularly. The technician will contact the doctor at home if your pet has any discomfort or difficulty.

The morning following surgery hospitalized patients will be examined by a doctor. Please call after 10:30 am to confirm that your pet is ready for discharge. We are available for pet pick-up until 6:30 pm weeknights and 12:00 pm on Saturdays. You will receive written discharge instructions detailing aftercare.

Please feel free to contact us with any further questions you might have.