

Three Little Pitties Rescue: Resources for Pet Owners

Version Update 7.31.19



Thank you for being a responsible pet owner. Your decisions for your pet can help end the cycle of senseless deaths for Texas animals.

General Guidelines for All Animals:

1. Spaying or neutering your cat or dog is one of the most important decisions you can make. This can be done as early as 8 weeks but since animals can reach sexual maturity as early as 6 months, it should be done no later than 5 months. Even animals kept only indoors or in a fenced area should be spayed or neutered since strays or loose animals can and do easily access fenced areas. Spaying or neutering your animal will help with potty training, reduce likelihood of aggression, and reduce the chances of your animal trying to escape. **Three Little Pitties will pay to spay or neuter any animal with a \$25 deposit from the owner.**
2. Heartworm prevention is the only way to ensure your dog stays healthy and free of heartworms. Heartworms is a painful death if left untreated and costs upwards of \$1000 to treat. Dogs not on prevention in Texas are almost guaranteed to get heartworms without a monthly prevention. Dogs should start this monthly pill or topical application at 8 weeks old and continue for the remainder of their life. If you haven't had your dog on heartworm prevention, it's not too late to start now! US based shops and online stores will only sell heartworm prevention with a prescription from a vet, but **Pets Megastore (an Australian based online store) sells "Advocate" which is a heartworm, flea, tick and intestinal worm prevention.** Costs vary by weight, but you can expect to pay between \$100-200 for a full year.

3. The most effective way to ensure you will be reunited with your pet if they ever escape or are lost in an emergency is to have them **microchipped**. Collars can fall off, but microchips are painless injections that will allow you to register your animal in an online data base linked to your contact information. This information is not public, but vets, shelters, and pet stores will be able to contact you if someone finds your pet. These microchips can be done at a lowcost vet clinic for roughly \$20.

4. All dogs, but especially dogs under a year, are at high risk for parvo and complications due to intestinal worms. The most effective way to protect your dog against these painful, deadly, and contagious health issues is a **full vaccine and deworming schedule**. You can get this done at your personal vet, or google low cost vaccination clinics near you, or here are a few low-cost places:
 - [Emancipet](https://emancipet.org/) (<https://emancipet.org/>)
 - [SNIP](https://www.snipoftx.org/) (<https://www.snipoftx.org/>)
 - [KAAWS](https://bestlowcostvet.com/) (<https://bestlowcostvet.com/>)
 - [Petcare Express](http://www.petcareexpress.net/) (<http://www.petcareexpress.net/>)
 - [Petco](https://www.vetcoclinics.com/) (<https://www.vetcoclinics.com/>)
 - [Pet Smart clinics](https://www.thrivevet.com/packages-dog/) (<https://www.thrivevet.com/packages-dog/>)
 - [Tractor Supply Pop Up Clinic](https://www.tractorsupply.com/policies-information-pet-vet-clinic-pet-vet-clinic) (<https://www.tractorsupply.com/policies-information-pet-vet-clinic-pet-vet-clinic>)

The most effective way to protect your animal from dangerous animals or weather is by keeping them indoors. For animals that will be spending extended periods of time outdoors, please consider these accommodations to keep them comfortable and as safe as possible:

Cats: Keep a bowl of fresh water and food out at all times. This ensures that they will return regularly.

Dogs: Keep a bowl of fresh food and water out at all times. Dogs on chains/tethers can find themselves trapped in the hot sun during long periods of the day if chain/tether doesn't reach the shade or it gets tangled up by accident. Please make sure that fencing or chains/tethers allow access to cool water and shade at all points in the day, during all seasons.

Be sure to like us on Facebook at [Three Little Pittie Rescue!](#)