

The Animal Wellness Center

2205 S. Park Rd
Kokomo, IN 46902
Telephone (765) 455-4411
Fax: (765) 455-4413

KEYS TO A HEALTHY DOG

-  **GOOD FOOD!** - This is the single best thing you can do for your dog, and will build resistance to infections and parasites. Start by feeding less store bought pet food, and feed a variety of fresh raw meat, cooked whole grains (rice, barley, oats), and cooked vegetables (peas, carrots, cabbage, green beans). No pork. Fresh raw beef bones from the butcher are great treats, and keep teeth and gums healthy. If you must feed commercial food, choose one with no grain or by-products added, and meat as the first ingredient. Most dogs do great on once daily feedings, with measured portions to avoid obesity, a huge problem.
-  **EXERCISE** - Go for walks daily with your dog, even if it's only around the yard or the block. Regular mild activity is better than one extra long walk on a weekend. Many problems result from dogs not exercising enough.
-  **GROOMING** - Brush or comb regularly and bathe occasionally with a mild unmedicated shampoo to clean toxins from the skin. Clean the ears with a mixture of vinegar, rubbing alcohol, and water as needed. Our grooming department can help with all your dog's needs!
-  **PREVENTIVE CARE** - Heartworms, fleas and ticks are the big concerns in this area. Test yearly for heartworm (spring is best), use a monthly heartworm preventative during mosquito season (May thru November here), and use flea and tick prevention products as needed. Good nutrition helps to build your dog's resistance to these pests as well.
-  **VACCINES** - Rabies vaccines are required by law in Indiana, but should not be given to unhealthy dogs. Distemper/parvo vaccines are not needed after 1 year of age. Other vaccines are unnecessary as well.

