

## **BANDAGE CARE INSTRUCTIONS**

- Be sure to keep your pet's bandage dry. Most bandages have a cotton layer that will wick moisture into the bandage. A wet bandage can increase the chance of infection and delay wound healing.
- For dogs: If their bandage is covering their foot, be sure to cover it with a plastic bag when going outside. **Please remember to remove the bag after your dog comes inside.** If you keep a bag around your pet's bandage constantly, its body heat will cause condensation to form inside the bag, which will then saturate the bandage.
- For cats: Be sure to clean your cat's litter box after each elimination when they have a bandage placed. This will keep urine and feces from saturating the bandage.
- Be sure to check the area around your pet's bandage daily for swelling (especially feet/toes). Swelling indicates the bandage is wrapped too tight for your pet's body to properly circulate blood flow. If you notice any swelling, please call our office.
- Please monitor your pet's bandage for heat, swelling, foul smell, and pain. Dogs and cats will occasionally begin limping when a bandage is placed on their legs. This does not always mean they are painful. Limping with a bandage can happen simply because your pet is not used to the feeling of having a bandage on them.
- Please keep your pet from licking, chewing, or grooming the bandage because it can make the bandage wet and dirty. If you pet ingests any piece of the bandage please call our office.
- If your pet's bandage slips away from where it was originally placed, please call our office to determine if it should be removed or replaced.
- If your pet has been tolerating its bandage well then suddenly begins limping or bothering the bandage site, please call our office. There may be a problem with the position or pressure of the bandage.