



Recommended Disease

Prevention Schedule for your Puppy's First Year

	Distemper	Lyme	Lepto	Bordetella	Rabies	/ Fecal Parasite Exams
# Vac. in 1 st Year:	2-4	4	2	1	1	2
Age in weeks:	8 – 20w	11+w	16w	8w	16w	8+w

The Distemper Vaccine is one injection with a combination of Distemper Virus, Hepatitis virus, Parainfluenza virus and Parvovirus.

- **Canine Distemper** is a highly contagious and potentially fatal viral disease. Clinical signs include vomiting, diarrhea and listlessness.
- **Hepatitis Virus** is a virus that can damage the liver, kidneys, spleen and lungs in dogs. Puppies are more likely to die from infection than adult dogs. Clinical signs may include fever, diarrhea and respiratory disease.
- **Canine Parainfluenza Virus** causes a chronic respiratory disease. In combination with other viral or bacterial infections the disease is more serious. The virus is spread through the cough of infected dogs.
- **Parvovirus** produces a potentially fatal disease of the gastrointestinal tract and less commonly heart muscles. The most common signs include bloody diarrhea, fever and dehydration.

Lyme Disease is acquired by both dogs and people from an infected deer tick. It is the most commonly reported tick-borne disease in the country. Lyme disease bacteria (*Borrelia burgdorferi*) can seriously damage joints, and can be fatal when it reaches the kidneys. A Lyme and Heartworm combination test is recommended yearly.

Bordetella bronchiseptica is the most common bacteria contributing to respiratory disease complex, or “kennel cough.” Infected dogs often have a dry, hacking cough and may also have a runny nose and eyes. When the dog also has a viral infection the disease is much more severe.

Leptospirosis is caused by exposure to several types of the *Leptospira* bacteria, which can be found in fresh water that has been contaminated by animal urine. Characterized by jaundice and fever and can be life threatening.

Rabies is one of the most feared animal diseases and is almost always fatal. The virus attacks the brain and central nervous system and is transmitted to humans chiefly through the bite of an infected animal.

Fecal Exams: A small amount of fresh feces is floated for parasite eggs. Most intestinal parasites are not visible without a microscope. Feces collected must be less than 24 hours old and not frozen.

Heartworm Infection is transmitted by infected mosquitoes and can cause serious disease in your dog. Heartworms infest the hearts and lungs of dogs and may eventually lead to heart failure and death. If a dog does develop heartworm disease, treatment is difficult and expensive. Avoid heartworm disease in your dogs with oral monthly prevention. Simple chewable tablets are given monthly from April to December. A Heartworm and Lyme combination blood test is recommended yearly.

Flea and tick prevention is recommended monthly. Due to the amount of ticks in Maine we recommend treating from March through December.

Spay or Neuter will help to prevent some forms of cancer, behavioral urination, roaming, aggression, and unwanted litters. Discuss the appropriate age for surgery with your veterinarian.