



How do I know when it's time ?

We understand that your pet is an important member of your family and depending on their quality of life, difficult decisions all too often must be made regarding their care. If your pet is ill, has received results of a terminal disease, or has been in an accident, the painful decision to euthanize is overwhelming. This is the time to consult with your veterinarian for treatment advice, likely outcomes, and types of financial investment involved, all while considering your pet's quality of life.

End of life care and euthanasia are the hardest decisions pet parents must make. We find it most helpful for clients to see changes in their pet's health written on paper (in black- and-white) with our "Quality of Life Scale". This questionnaire (is available from Susie in our office) it evaluates a pet's current condition and allows families to make educated decisions regarding their pet's final days.

Always remember, that the disease, illness, or accident is what is taking your pet's life away. If you do choose to move forward with this painful decision, know that it is purely from selfless, unconditional love. You are returning that same love your loved animal companion gave to you and your family.

Variables to consider

- Is my pet able to do the things that make them happy? Are they in pain or discomfort? Are they having more bad days than good?
- Study photos of your pet in healthier times and take new snapshots every few days to compare pics. We don't always notice subtle changes because we see our pets every day—pictures (and/or quick videos) will help.
- Keep a journal of how your pet is doing, and use your notes to answer our "Quality of Life Scale" questionnaire available to email from our office.
- Look over your veterinarian consult sheets and notes from your exam visits to see your pet's medical history.
- If you are having doubts about your pet's wellness, seek the guidance of your family veterinarian .