

Family Pet



Visit Program Information Guide

The staff at WVH-King know and understand that transitioning to nursing home living for our members can be filled with feelings of loss. They may feel loss of personal space, loss of personal belongings, loss of health, and loss of seeing loved family, friends, and pets on a daily basis. We here at WVH-King welcome and encourage you to bring family pets for visits with your loved one.

In order to maintain a safe and healthy environment for all of our residents, we do have policies and procedures in place for our Family Pet Visitors.

1. We require all pets to be registered prior to your first visit.
2. Ensure all vaccinations are up to date. You will need to bring in proof from your veterinarian that these vaccinations have been given and the date they were given (DHLPP, Rabies, Heartworm, and Flea Prevention).
3. Proof that heartworm and flea prevention has been completed can be as simple as placing a flea collar on the pet or bringing in the box top of the heartworm medication. These need to be updated annually.
4. Bring in all of this information to the Volunteer Coordinator's office, Monday - Friday 8am to 4pm. Located in the Marden Memorial Center. If you have any questions regarding pets, please call 715-258-4247. If you fax the information, please remember to put a cover sheet on the fax stating your name, your contact information, who you are visiting and your pet's name.
5. We will place your paperwork on file, register your pet, give you an ID card to show unit staff at each visit, and go over instructions for safe pet visits with your loved one.
6. Once you are registered, you are free to visit your loved one with your pet.

Some rules to follow for your Family Pet Visits

1. Upon each visit, be sure to sign the "Pet Visitor Log" at the nurse's station on the unit. You are required to show your Family Pet ID card to unit staff on duty as well and make sure the vaccinations are up to date.
 - a. If your pet's vaccinations need to be renewed, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator at the Marden Memorial Center to update your paperwork.
2. Your pet may only visit with the member you designate on your Family Pet Visit paperwork
 - a. We do have a Pet Therapy program which allows pets to visit any of our members who wish to have one. The Pet Therapy program has different standards and criteria than our family Pet Visit program. If you wish to be part of this program, please see the Volunteer Coordinator at the Marden Center.
3. Pets must be on leashes at all times.
4. You must have complete control of your pet at all times.
5. No pets allowed in areas where food is being served unless they are just passing through a common area.
6. Pets must not be left outdoors without supervision.
7. Pet waste must be disposed of in the proper manner.
8. If your loved one is in a double room, you must ask their roommate if it is okay to bring the pet in. If the roommate does not agree, please see nursing staff to find an alternate location for your visit.