

FAQ regarding euthanasia:

How do I know when it's time to put my pet to sleep?

No one can answer this question except you. As our pets' masters we are both blessed and cursed with the ability to choose when it is time to end their life for humane reasons.

It sounds inane to say, "When it's time, you'll know." However, no one knows your pet better than you. When your pet's quality of life has deteriorated to the point of suffering for reasons such as unmanageable pain or terminal illness, it may be time to consider euthanasia.

This decision should be one that includes your entire family. Having the whole family in agreement will make the experience less stressful for everyone.

Do I need an appointment to have my pet euthanized?

That depends on whether you want to be present with your pet during this procedure.

If so, yes, you will need an appointment so we can give you the proper time and attention.

Some clients prefer not to be present. They choose to spend some quality time with their pet, say their good-byes and leave before we actually perform the euthanasia. If that is the situation, then you do not need an appointment. However, it is always a good idea to call first to make sure the doctor is not out of the office or unavailable.

Either way, you and your pet will be placed in our private consultation room where you can spend as much time as you need with your pet before the euthanasia procedure.

There is paperwork that will have to be completed before we can euthanize your pet. If you call first or make an appointment, we can have the paperwork ready in advance to make things easier.

What is the euthanasia process like?

Euthanasia is an intravenous injection that acts to essentially cause your pet to fall into a deep state of anesthesia. While your pet is asleep, its heart will stop and other body systems will shut down.

In most cases, animals do not object to the procedure. Sometimes pets will resist receiving an injection, as they would any other injection, but after the initial "prick" there is no discomfort. In a few cases if the pet is severely agitated or if we anticipate the procedure will not go smoothly, we may elect to sedate your pet before the euthanasia injection.

In either case, the process is very quick and most often times, painless.

If I do not take my pet home to bury it, what happens to the body?

Our clinic has an association with Angel Oaks Pet Crematory in Houston. If you elect not to take your pet home, Angel Oaks will pick up the pet from our clinic and cremate it at their facility. They also offer private cremation and return of your pet's ashes at an additional cost. In that instance, the ashes are returned in a simple, beautiful complimentary urn. Angel Oaks offers beautiful, unique specialty urns you can choose for your pet's ashes, also at an additional cost.