

Euthanasia

No one ever wants to think about saying good-bye to their furry family members, but unfortunately it is a fact each and every one of us needs to face at some point in our lives. Often, being prepared for it helps to make the choice, and transition, easier for you and your family. Making the decision to put your pet to sleep is a complicated one that is often met with the question “how do I know when it is time?” Fortunately, the University of Colorado has developed a survey that helps make this decision much more objective and can help you step away from the (understandable) emotion of the situation. If you would like a copy of this, the clinic can provide one to you at no charge.

When you come to the decision to say good-bye to your friend there are a few things to consider when booking the appointment. Do you want to be there with them as they pass? What would you like for after care of their remains? There are no right or wrong answers to these questions, but they will come up in the conversation with the clinic, so it is a good idea, as a family, to come up with your plan.

When the appointment time comes you will be provided with your own, private room. Your veterinarian will come into the room and confirm your after care choices and what to expect during the process. Here at SVC we place an intravenous catheter to ensure that the medications administered are delivered appropriately. Pets are not always sedated prior to the procedure, but it does depend on the situation. Once you are ready the veterinarian will administer a medication that is designed for this specific situation. This medication is a sedative itself, and the process of your pet passing away is due to an overdose of this medication. The process takes approximately 30 seconds from the time the injection begins to the time when they become completely anesthetized.

Though this is a very stressful time for every pet owner, being prepared can reduce the stress you are experiencing in this very emotional time.