

Caring for Pets During Difficult Economic Times

We are all facing difficulties due to the economic crisis our country is in. Mortgages, car payments, even grocery bills are hard to pay for. Taking care of our pets properly is not only time consuming but costly as well. When the economy is so depressed, family must come first. Pets are members of our families. Obviously human family member needs must be met first even though a lot of people will neglect themselves to provide for their animal companions.

There are certain basic needs that pets have that are necessary regardless of economic restraints. Some are obvious such as food, water and shelter. Preventative medicine is always important since preventing problems is always less expensive than treating problems after they happen.

The basic preventative measures that need to be met are a yearly wellness exam, heartworm test and monthly preventative and a rabies vaccine. The other vaccines and an intestinal parasite screen are important but if everything can't be done at the same time, those can wait until you can afford them. The rabies vaccine and tag are required by county ordinance. The exam can detect problems in their infancy and prevent problems from becoming major. Heartworms are a terrible disease that is totally preventable and the most important not to neglect.

All of us at Planco Veterinary Care hope the recession ends soon and we wish everyone a speedy and full recovery.