

## **BANDAGE CARE INSTRUCTIONS**

A bandage has been placed on your pet to protect an injury/incision. It is important to monitor this bandage, as improperly cared for wraps can cause additional harm. Please follow these instructions carefully:

- 1) Make sure the bandage stays clean and dry. Wet bandages can shrink, cutting off circulation to the area below them. If your pet goes out in the rain, place a plastic bag or protective wrap over the bandage to keep it dry. Should the bandage become wet or dirty, you must remove it promptly and call us to discuss the need to replace it.
- 2) Check the area below the bandage (usually the toes) twice a day for any signs of swelling (an indication of impaired circulation from a too-tight bandage). Should you notice such swelling, remove the bandage and give us a call.
- 3) If your pet will not leave the bandage alone, there are multiple ways to discourage them from chewing at it: covering it with a sock, using an E-collar, spraying a bitter anti-bite substance on the bandage, sedation, etc. Feel free to discuss these options with a doctor or technician.
- 4) In general, bandages should not be left on without being checked by a doctor for more than one week. If you are unsure of when/how to remove the bandage or have any other questions, please give us a call:

**BUCKEYSTOWN VETERINARY HOSPITAL: (301) 698-9930**