

## Checklist for My Pet's End of Life Care

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### Days/Weeks Ahead

- Make appointment with your pet's Regular Veterinarian and/or Rainbow Bridge Veterinarian to discuss your pet's Quality of Life, Timing of Euthanasia, and Comfort Care options.
- Think about how you would like for things to go.
  - Who will be present
  - What ceremonies or rituals might you want to include
  - Where (at home, vet's office, other location)
  - When (day/date, time of day)
  - Decide what you would like to happen with your pet's body afterward (aftercare)
- Schedule appointment with vet:

	NAME	CONTACT INFO
<input type="checkbox"/> First Choice:	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Backup Option:	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Option:	_____	
- Make arrangements for family and friends who might like to be present during the transition or to have a chance to say goodbye prior.
  - If necessary, arrange for childcare, if they will not be present.
  - Arrange time for everyone to grieve, away from work/school or other activities.
  - Although grief and sadness are normal, try to make sure that everyone who will be present can maintain a peaceful environment for the pet during the transition.
- Prepare Pet Loss and Grief resources to help you deal with the loss.

### Day Of

- Complete any paperwork and prepare payment
- Select and prepare location for procedure:
  - Comfortable place for pet (e.g. bed, blankets, towels, etc.), furry friends & people
  - Have plenty of Facial Tissues
- If your pet is still eating, prepare a small special treat to offer while saying
- Consider placing a Do Not Disturb sign on front door ([Click Here for Sample](#)).
- Silence or turn off phones once everyone has arrived (including vet).
- Remove Collar & Collect Memorial Objects (fur clipping, collar, photos, etc.) – can be done after passing.

### Afterward

- Inform family/friends about your loss
- Take time to grieve your loss
- Honor your pet's memory:
  - Remembrance or Memorial activities (e.g. scattering ashes, writing a tribute, memorial service, making a scrapbook, etc.).
  - donate bowls, beds, etc., to a local humane group
  - volunteer your time with an animal related organization