



The Pet Hospice Program is not a specific place, but a philosophy. It functions on the principle that death is a part of life. Terminal illness and the dying process can be experienced with dignity, as an animal rests at home with its loving family.



Pet Hospice focuses on caring, not curing. We understand that serious illness profoundly impacts not only the patient, but family and loved ones as well. Here are the goals of the Pet Hospice Program:

- Pet Hospice is focused on giving pets a safe, caring, intimate end-of-life experience in their familiar home environment.
- Pet Hospice care focuses on providing pain control and physical comfort to the pet, as well as educational support and emotional comfort for the family.
- Pet Hospice volunteers serve as teachers, enabling the family to care for their pet's medical and emotional needs at home.
- Families are given time to adjust to their pet's progressive disease and say good-bye in their own way in the comfort of their own home.
- Pet Hospice helps make a pet's death a kinder, more intimate experience for both the pet and his or her family.



Frequently asked Questions

How do I know when my pet is ready for Pet Hospice?

Pet Hospice typically serves patients with a terminal illness. When the goal of treatment begins to shift from curing the illness to providing comfort, it is time to consider hospice.

What major services are provided by the Hospice Volunteers?

- *To act as the liaison among the client, their pet, and the family veterinarian.*
- *To provide emotional support and education for the family.*
- *To assist the veterinarian and client with wellness assessment of the pet.*

Do Pet Hospice Volunteers provide euthanasia service?

- *Volunteers can be present and help facilitate during euthanasia, however, they do not actually perform euthanasia.*

How much does Pet Hospice cost?

At this time, there is no charge for our services. The veterinarians, however, will charge an appropriate fee for the services they provide.

Where is Pet Hospice located?

Pet Hospice care is provided for your pet in your own home. The Pet Hospice Program is coordinated by the Argus Institute.

How can I receive these services for my pet?

Ask your veterinarian to refer you to our program.

Who are the Pet Hospice Volunteers?

The Pet Hospice Volunteers are a group of specially trained veterinary students from Colorado State University's James L. Voss Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

ARGUS INSTITUTE

Available Support Services

The Argus Institute provides education, guidance, and a supportive environment for pet-owning families as they cope with the difficult times of pet ownership. As co-founders of the Pet Hospice Program, the Argus Institute staff is also available to clients of the program as they grieve the loss of their animals.

Services provided include:

- Assistance with decision-making
- Support before, during and after euthanasia
- Grief education and support
- Support for children as they deal with family pet issues, including pet loss
- Referrals to qualified professionals and community support services

To contact the Argus Institute
call 970-297-4143.
Counselors are typically available
Monday through Friday, 9-5.

For more information, contact us or visit our website at
www.argusinstitute.colostate.edu.



2008-2009 Pet Hospice Volunteers

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Pet Hospice
970-219-7335
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www.argusinstitute.colostate.edu/pethospice.htm



The Pet Hospice Program was developed jointly by local practitioners, Front Range Community College, Hospice Inc. of Larimer County, and the Argus Institute at James L. Voss Veterinary Teaching Hospital.



**Colorado State University
Pet Hospice**

Pet Hospice Program

Our mission is to provide compassionate end-of-life care for pets and emotional support and education for their families.



Contact the Pet Hospice Program at
970-219-7335

Serving the Ft. Collins and
Loveland Area