

**Water's Edge Veterinary Hospital**

**978-374-1684**

### **Bandage care instructions**

**Please discourage running, jumping, and rough play as these activities increase the likelihood of the bandage loosening and slipping.**

**For dogs, please keep on a leash for all outdoor activity, and if you have cat please restrict it to one room and prevent it from jumping onto furniture, or use a large dog kennel to keep confined.**

**If the ground is wet when you take your dog out for a walk, please cover the bandage with a plastic bag and remove it when you return back inside- if you leave it on moisture can build up inside the bag and cause the bandage to get damp.**

**If your dog is having a hard time walking with the bandage, try placing a towel (or something similar) under the chest for front end support or under the abdomen for hind end support. This is called "towel walking" and can help to prevent slips and falls, while additionally relieving some of the dog's burden.**

**Please check the bandage three times a day- if the toes are visible make sure that they are not cold to the touch or swollen. This indicates that the bandage may have shifted and become too tight. Call the office ASAP- if it is after hours, you can loosen the bandage by making a cut vertically at the top or bottom of the bandage. (Careful not to cut the skin.)**

**Do not allow your pet to chew or lick the bandage, including the skin above or below it, as this can cause moistness leading to skin infections. If the animal is consistently chewing at the bandage it can indicate a problem with the bandage and you need to call the office to have it checked. It may also just mean that you need to use an e-collar to deter your pet from destroying the bandage.**

**If the bandage becomes wet it will need to be changed ASAP as this can lead to skin infections and discomfort.**

**We know how frustrating bandages are for you and your pet- please do not hesitate to call us with any questions or concerns.**

**Thank you.**