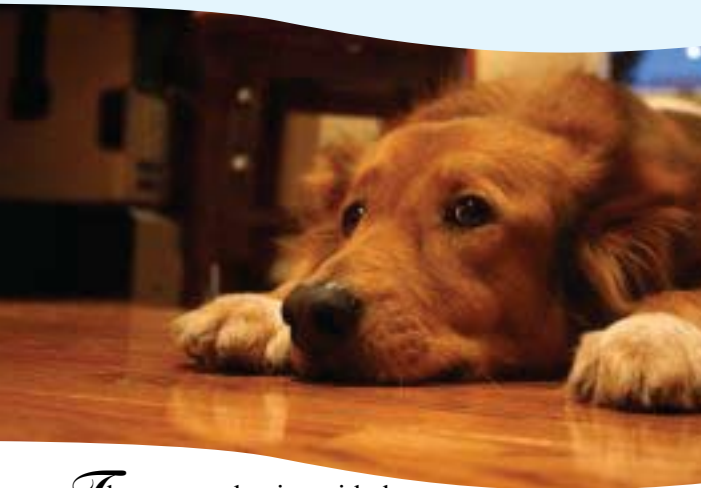


What is Euthanasia?

The word “euthanasia” refers to ending the life of an animal that is suffering from a terminal illness or an incurable condition in a compassionate way.

What Does Euthanasia Involve?

The euthanasia procedure itself typically involves little more than injecting a sedating solution into your animal’s vein. However, the steps leading up to and following the procedure can be distressing for an owner.



The process begins with the decision to proceed with euthanasia, which can be very difficult. Your veterinarian will provide you the information you need to make the decision. The death of your animal can evoke intense feelings of grief and bereavement. Your veterinarian and our staff will help you to deal with these feelings. Finally, deciding what to do with your animal’s remains can be quite troubling.



In many ways, opting for a meaningful way of handling your pet’s remains can be a source of solace at this difficult time. By finding the way that is right for you, you can help honor the special bond you shared with your animal and make it easier to say goodbye.

What options are there for handling my animal’s remains?

Once you have decided that euthanasia is necessary for your animal, you have several options for the disposition of his or her body. You may consult with your veterinarian about the traditional ways available in your area, as well as any pertinent laws that apply.

One very special option is to donate your animal’s remains to the Educational Memorial program at the Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine (RUSVM).

What is the Educational Memorial Program and why does RUSVM have one?

Over the period of time that you have owned an animal(s), you have likely come to appreciate the skill and knowledge of veterinarians. As you probably know, veterinarians begin their specialized training by studying animal anatomy in great detail. Veterinary Anatomy I and

Veterinary Anatomy II courses occur in the first two semesters of the curriculum and serve as a foundation for subsequent courses in Pathology, Diagnostic Imaging (Radiology), and Surgery.

Just as medical schools teach human anatomy with human cadavers, veterinary schools teach large and small animal anatomy with animal cadavers. The Educational Memorial program provides a means by which people can donate the body of their deceased animal for these teaching purposes, thereby helping to educate veterinary students.

RUSVM veterinary students are deeply grateful for these learning opportunities. Throughout our teaching exercises, we all view donated bodies as irreplaceable gifts and as testimonials to the public’s support for our profession. Without exception, we treat donated bodies with the utmost respect and dignity at all times.

By means of the Educational Memorial program, your animal, even in death, can make an invaluable contribution to the training of a future skilled and compassionate veterinarian.



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How does the Educational Memorial program work?

If you decide you would like to participate in the Educational Memorial program please call us at **465-4161, ext. 222**. A RUSVM Community Practice veterinarian will return your call. In order to participate in this program, your animal must be transported to the university.

Once the euthanasia procedure has been humanely and compassionately done, a Clay Paw impression will be made of your animal's paw. The clay impression will be presented to you as a memorial.



RUSVM will cover all of the costs of the procedure. You and your animal will be recognized for your unique and caring gift to veterinary medical education.



Is the Educational Memorial program right for you?

RUSVM is pleased to be able to offer a body donation option to those facing the distressing experience of losing a beloved animal. Although the donation program is not the right choice for everyone, we hope that for some it will provide a means for the spirit of their animal to live on. Some will find a sense of purpose in their moment of grief and sorrow.

Only you can decide if the Educational Memorial program is the best option for you and your animal. We understand what a difficult time this is and we appreciate your consideration of this option.



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*Educational
Memorial Program*
"A way for you and your animal to leave a lasting legacy"

