

Hoffman Estates Animal Hospital

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"Providing Love and Care for a Lifetime"

Newsletter- Late March, 2010

Along with Warmer Weather comes...



...Mosquitoes and Fleas and Ticks, Oh My!

Warmer weather signals many things around our hospital-- most importantly, *heartworm and flea & tick season!* Please make sure to check your supply of heartworm medication and topical flea products. We are definitely in heartworm territory and local fleas and ticks will be flourishing very soon. We cannot overemphasize the importance of making sure all of your pets have their preventative medications onboard.

We are seeing an increase in heartworm positive cases. It used to be that we rarely saw any cases here, but we have seen several heartworm positive cases at our hospital this past year. What is so heartbreaking is that it is a preventable disease. It is also costly and uncomfortable for your pet when we have to treat them for it. Please don't forget to bring your dogs in for their annual heartworm testing and then make sure they get their medication every month, year round. We'd much rather see them for their annual wellness exam than for having to treat them for heartworm disease...

We also hear from some people that "we've had pets for 20 years and have never had a problem with fleas"! *You don't know how lucky you've been!* That's why we feel terrible when one of those "lucky" ones brings in a pet with a flea infestation. They cringe when they hear how costly it is to take their pet to the groomer for a flea bath and then to also have an exterminator come out to their home to chemically treat it in order to remove the fleas and their eggs. If they would have used preventative medication, they could have avoided all of this. We're also seeing an increase in ticks, especially for those with lots of wildlife in your yards or if your pet frequents wooded areas.

Looking for things to do?



* *Doggie Easter Egg Hunt*: April 3rd from 11-12 noon at the Arboretum of South Barrington, Route 59 and Higgins Road in the Munao Plaza. Ph: 847-426-6200 or www.ShopTheArboretumSB.com

* *Have Dinner at Lou Malnati's on March 31st* and a portion of the sale will benefit Almost Home Foundation's Animal Rehabilitation Fund. Please go to Almost Home's website and print out a flyer to take with you when you go to Lou Malnati's. More info: www.almosthomefoundation.org

*If you have some great photos of your pet, **Tails Magazine** is sponsoring their *Annual Photo Contest*. You can win great prizes for you and your pet and maybe even have your pet be chosen for the cover of their May issue! Visit www.TailsInc.com for more information.

www.hoffmanestatesanimalhospital.com