

All Seasons Veterinary Care Monthly Newsletter

August



Don't Let Your Guard Down—Fleas, Ticks, and Mosquitos Are Still Out There!

Sure, the temps should be dropping soon (maybe?), but fleas, ticks, and mosquitoes aren't packing their bags just yet. These pests can hang around well into the cooler months—especially with unpredictable Iowa weather. That means keeping your pet protected year-round is still a must. Here's exactly why it matters:



Heartworms Are Spread by Mosquitoes



It only takes one bite for an infected mosquito to transmit heartworm larvae to your pet. Over time, these worms grow and live in the heart, lungs, and blood vessels causing severe damage. Symptoms don't often show up until the disease is advanced, and treatment can be tough (and expensive). Prevention is way easier and much safer for your pet.



Fleas Are Tiny, But They Bring Big Problems



One flea can lay up to 50 eggs a day, and those eggs can fall off your pet and onto your carpet, bedding, or furniture—creating a full-blown infestation in no time. Fleas don't just make pets itchy; they can cause skin infections, anemia, and even carry tapeworms. When weather cools off, fleas still can stay alive indoors and in warmer patches outside.



Ticks Aren't Just a Summer Thing



They can remain active in temps as low as 40°F, especially if there's leaf litter or overgrown grass around. A tick bite can transmit Lyme disease, Ehrlichiosis, Anaplasmosis, and other serious infections—not just to pets, but also to people. And guess what? Pets can bring ticks into your home even if you don't see them right away.

💡 Pro Tip: Prevention is way **cheaper and easier** than treatment. Skipping just one dose can leave your pet unprotected. If you're unsure when your pet last had their prevention, give us a call—we'll help you check!

↪ What Month is it? ↪

Itchy Pet Awareness Month:

August is Itchy Pet Awareness Month, and if your pet has been scratching, licking, or chewing more than usual, it might be more than just a little boredom.

Itchy skin can be a sign of something deeper going on—and it's one of the most common reasons pet parents visit the vet. Some of the most common causes of itchiness in pets include:

🌿 Allergies – Just like us, pets can have allergic reactions to all kinds of things: grass, pollen, dust, mold, certain food, and more! 🌿

🍄 Yeast or bacterial infections – These can develop quickly, especially in warm, moist areas like ears, armpits, paws, and tails. 🍄

🐛 Fleas – Even if you don't see fleas, they could still be the culprit. Flea bites can cause intense itching and allergic reactions. 🐛

💧 Dry skin or irritants – Some grooming, cleaning products, or weather changes can dry out your pet's skin and make them uncomfortable. 💧

💬 If your pet is constantly scratching, shaking their head, licking their paws, or seems restless and irritated, don't wait it out—schedule a visit. We can help diagnose the issue and recommend a treatment plan that will help them feel better fast.

National Immunization Awareness Month:

August is National Immunization Awareness Month—a perfect time to check in and make sure your pet is up to date on their vaccines.

Vaccines are one of the easiest and most effective ways to protect your furry friend from some preventable illnesses. Some of these diseases are not only contagious and dangerous—they can be deadly. Even indoor pets aren't totally off the hook!

Whether your pet is a couch potato or an outdoor explorer, all pets should be kept up to date on:

DOGS

- ✓ Rabies
- ✓ DHPP
(Distemper & Parvo)
- ✓ Bordetella
(Kennel Cough)
- ✓ Leptospirosis

CATS

- ✓ Rabies
- ✓ FVRCP
- ✓ FeLV
(Feline Leukemia)

Even if your pet stays inside most of the time, it only takes one unexpected escape, one visit to the groomer, or a walk around the block to be exposed. That's why routine vaccinations—and keeping up with boosters—are so important.

💬 Not sure what your pet is due for or when they had their last vaccines? No worries—just give us a call or shoot us a message. We're happy to check their records and help you stay on track!

Call Us At 515-531-8387

Guess How Many Lean Treats Are In The Jar!

Think you've got a good eye for snacks? Stop by the front desk and check out our Lean Treats guessing jar!

We've packed a jar full of delicious Lean Treats (aka your pet's favorite low-fat, chickeny goodness), and now it's up to YOU to guess how many are in there. Closest guess wins the entire jar—yes, ALL the Lean Treats go home with you and your lucky pet!
(OR a \$20 Fareway Gift Card, your choice!)

Established Clients Can Enter!
One guess per household!
Winner announced at the end of the month!

Just let one of our staff members know what number you would like to guess, and we will write it down! If the correct number is chosen multiple times, the winner will be drawn randomly! Good luck, and may the best guess win!



Welcome Claudia!



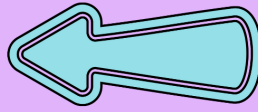
Claudia has been working in the veterinary field for over 8 years and brings a deep passion for animal welfare to everything she does. She finds the most rewarding part of her job is helping sick pets recover and get back to feeling like themselves again. For Claudia, being in this industry means being part of a team that shares a common goal—advancing veterinary care and making a real difference in the lives of both animals and the people who love them.

At home, Claudia has a gentle dove and two energetic German Shepherd mixes who keep her on her toes. When she's not at the clinic, you can find her hiking, experimenting in the kitchen, or planning her next travel adventure.

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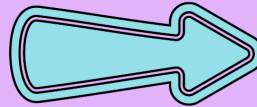


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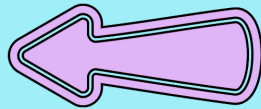
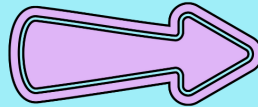
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Additional Resources:

Online Pharmacy



Hill's to Home

Purina VetDirect

