



LAKEWOOD PET GAZETTE

Happy Spring! Congratulations to Tracy, who started school to become a Licensed Veterinary Technician earlier this year. Welcome to all of our new furry faces and their pet parents. Thank you for choosing and trusting us.

We are accepting new clients and patients! Have you heard about our referral reward program? We offer a credit on your pet's Lakewood account for every client you refer over. We appreciate your support!

March is Pet Poison Awareness Month! We recommend that if you ever suspect that your pet has ingested something potentially toxic, you contact ASPCA 24/7 Poison Control Hotline at 888-426-4435 or your local veterinarian immediately to determine next steps.

“Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains unawakened.” - Anatole France

CAMPING & HIKING

With Dogs

Pack the essentials:

- Reflective collar, harness, 6-foot leash, ID tag
- Waste bags, towels
- Food, treats, water, bowls
- First aid kit, medications
- Outdoor-safe toys
- Life jacket, doggie backpack
- Tent, crate, bed, tie-out
- Paw protectant

Preparation:

- Flea & tick prevention
- Vaccines such as Lyme and/or leptospirosis
- Microchipping

Check campground regulations:

- Leash rules
- Barking ordinances
- Trail access

Safety tips:

- ▲ Never leave your dog unattended.
- ▲ Watch for signs of overheating.
- ▲ Know how to identify poisonous plants.
- ▲ Do not let your dog drink from stagnant water sources.
- ▲ Watch for blue green algae.

Here's to
happy
trails and
wagging
tails!



Spring Cleaning

Whether you save spring cleaning for spring or do deep cleaning sessions all year long, don't forget about your pets. Not only do they contribute to some of the gunk and grime you're cleaning off your stuff, but they also have their own stuff that needs to be cleaned, organized, and updated. From beds to bowls, litter boxes to the treat cabinet, medications to that stubborn spot on the couch, it's helpful to know how to spring clean for our pets.

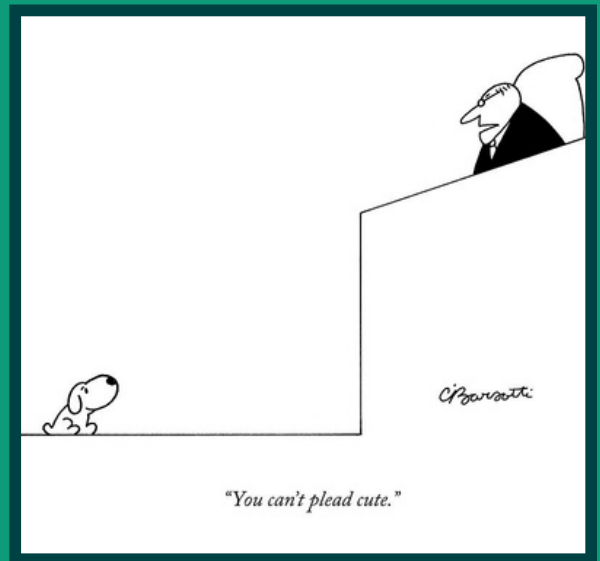
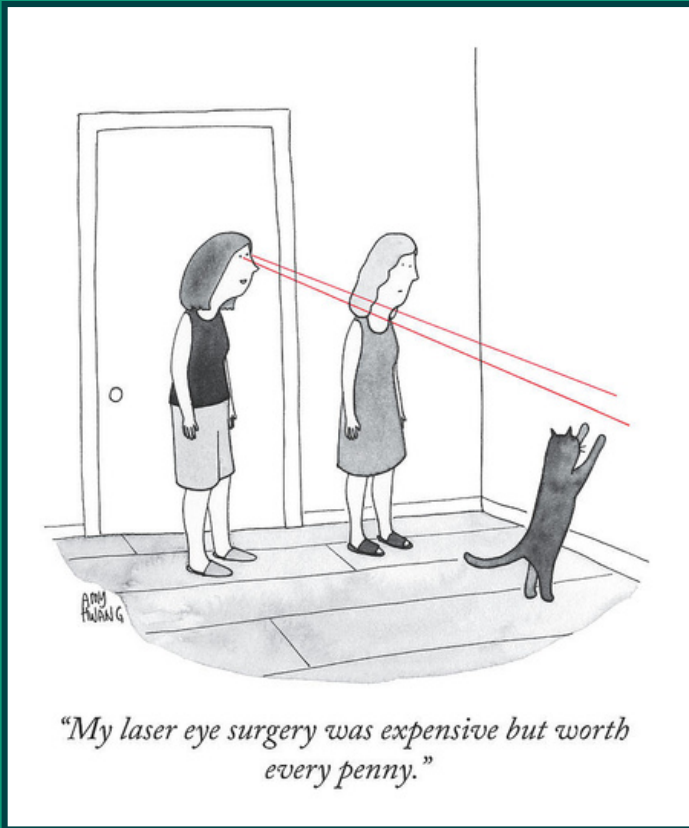


- **Cleaning Dog and Cat Toys:** As with your pet's bed, take a close look at toys and get rid of any that have been chewed or beaten up too much. If pieces are falling off or it's just too gross to get clean, it's time for a replacement. If it is a favorite toy, there are some things you can do to clean it. For non-porous toys, a wipe down with a wet cloth may be enough. Let them dry before you give them back to your dog or cat. You may have soft toys that can be washed. Check the label and follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- **Deep Cleaning Dog and Cat Crates:** This may be something you do often if your crate gets a lot of use. Wipe the bars down with soapy water and vacuum the bottom of the crate. Then a good soak or scrub with very hot, soapy water, a rinse or wipe off, and drying is all you need.
- **Check Expiration Dates:** Spring cleaning is an ideal time to look at all your pet supplies and check expiration dates on things like: medications, flea/tick/heartworm preventatives, supplements, treats, wet food, and dry kibble.



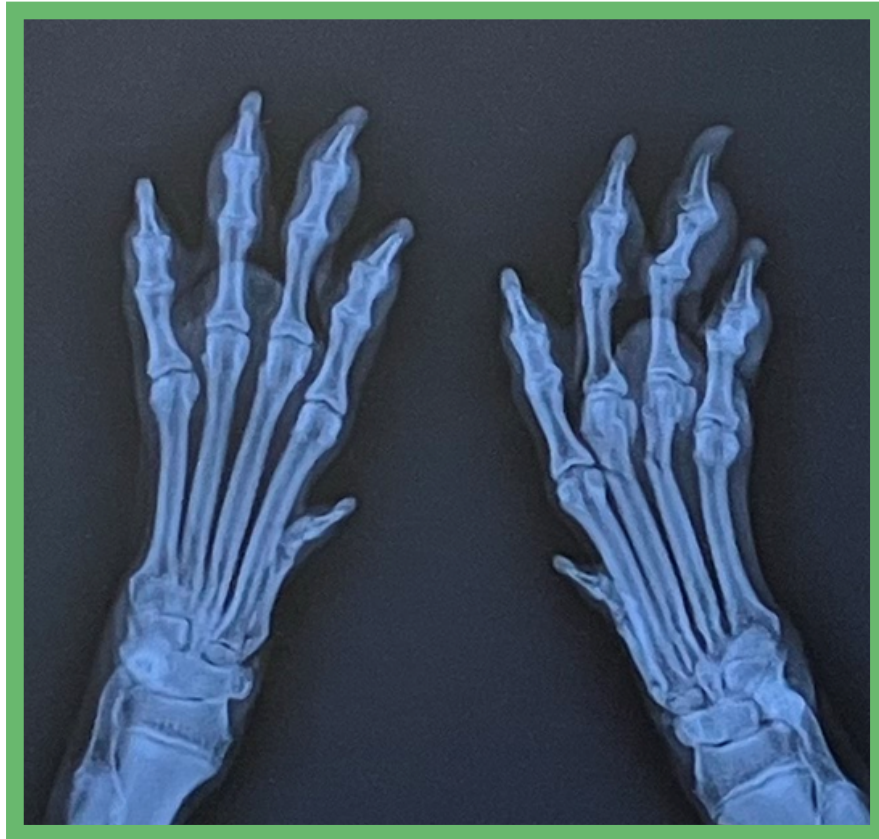
LAKEWOOD'S

FAVORITE PET CARTOONS



Case Study by Dr. Andrew Olson, DVM

BROKEN



This image above is from a young puppy that presented for limping on the right front leg. The exam revealed discomfort and mild swelling in the foot area, which prompted us to obtain X-rays. **The diagnosis is two broken bones. Can you find them on the X-ray above?**

Included in the image are the 2 forearm bones (radius and ulna), 7 wrist bones (radial carpal, ulnar carpal, accessory carpal, and the first through fourth carpal bones), 5 metatarsal bones, and 14 toe bones (phalanges). That's 28 bones to assess on each foot, so you're looking at 56 bones!



Take your time and use the left foot to compare. Look at the next page to find the answer!

Case Study by Dr. Andrew Olson, DVM

BROKEN

PART TWO

This puppy sustained fractures of the 3rd and 4th metatarsal bones. Bones are very good at healing, but they need to be “placed” very close together and remain very still for 4-8 weeks for good healing to occur. If the bones are far apart, shattered, or completely unsupported they will not be able to heal. In these cases, patients will require a surgery to move the pieces close together and will require implants to keep them in place. In this particular puppy, the other metatarsal bones were intact, and they could help lend support of the foot during the healing process. This meant that this puppy was an excellent candidate for a type of splint that would keep the bones together and prevent bending of the area.



Tune into Part Three for an update on this puppy's injury!

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BROKEN

PART THREE

This last X-ray shows the healed fractures after several weeks wearing the splint. You can see the fracture lines are no longer visible and the typical bone swelling that occurs during the healing process has become smooth again. If you look very carefully, you can see that all the bones in the right foot appear to have a slightly thin, dim, and gray appearance compared to the thicker, brighter, white appearance of the left foot. The splint becomes responsible for much of the weight bearing forces and the bones will lose density over time. In a healthy patient, this bone density will become normal again after a few weeks of weight bearing exercise. This is an illustration of, “If you don’t use it you lose it.”



Thanks for reading this Spring’s copy of the Lakewood Pet Gazette! Keep your eyes peeled quarterly for the latest happenings at Lakewood Animal Hospital.