



2016 Fall Newsletter

Lakewood Animal Hospital Pet Gazette

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DID YA KNOW?

- * Butterflies taste with their feet!*
- * Dalmatians are born pure white and develop spots as they mature.*
- * Cats only have about 470 taste buds. Dogs have approximately 1700 and humans, have around 9000!*
- * A male cat is called a "tom", and a female cat is called a "queen".*
- * Sea otters hold hands when they sleep to keep from drifting apart. Awww!*
- * Dogs can donate blood to other dogs and cats can donate to other cats!*



**Thank you
for the
opportunity
to help you
keep your
pets healthy!**

Client Appreciation Week October 3 - 7, 2016

Lakewood Animal Hospital is
celebrating our 5th anniversary!

Join us for our annual
"Client Appreciation Week" celebration!
Come in daily to get some goodies and be entered into the
drawing of the day as well as the Grand Prize drawing!

Monday, Oct. 3 - "Sandwiches & Skin"

Sounds gross, but skin issues are no joke! Stop in between 12-2 pm for lunch on the go! We'll have some interesting handouts for you about your pet's skin issues.

Today's Drawing - Grooming Gift Certificate, \$50 value

Tuesday, Oct. 4 - "Teeth Treats"

Stop in anytime and pick up a goodie bag of dental treats and a free toothbrush and toothpaste for your pet!

Today's Drawing - Free Dental Cleaning, \$400+ value

Wednesday, Oct. 5 - "Cake & Cooties"

Anniversary cake for everyone!

Come in between 12-2 pm and get info and tips on parasite/flea/tick prevention from our Merial rep. and enjoy cake while you are here!

Today's Drawing - Year of Nexgard/Frontline, almost \$200 value

Thursday, Oct. 6 - "Fruit & Fluids & Fitness"

Nothing hits the spot like fresh fruit and cold water! Come in between 12-2 pm and let our Royal Canin rep. show you how to determine your pet's body condition score. You can also pick up a free Lakewood beverage tumbler while you're here!

Today's Drawing - Year of Royal Canin Satiety Diet

Friday, Oct. 7 - GRAND PRIZE DAY!

Stop in any time before 5 pm and receive TWO entries into the Grand Prize drawing.

**The Grand Prize includes one year
of wellness care for one pet!**

\$1000+ value

(See website or team member for official rules.)

Sailing Away

A Look At Separation Anxiety - By Drs. Amy and Andrew Olson

Top Five Ways You Know Your Dog Has Separation Anxiety

- 1) You always have canine company when you are doing your business in the bathroom.
- 2) When you pick up your car keys or purse your dog clings to your leg like a dryer sheet.
- 3) Your landlord has threatened to kick you out because your dog is too loud when you are gone.
- 4) Home Depot knows you by name because your dog is "rearranging" things and giving you some opportunities for weekend home improvement projects.
- 5) You haven't gone on a vacation since you've gotten your dog because you are certain he will have a heart attack if you do!

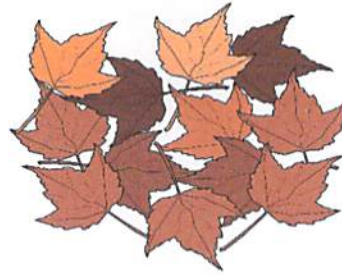
If you can identify with any of these scenarios, your dog may be suffering from separation anxiety -- a disorder hallmarked by vocalization, destructive behaviors, and house-soiling when left alone. This disorder causes immense suffering for some animals so it is important to diagnose and treat the disorder.

First, it is important to distinguish behaviors typical of separation anxiety from those that originate from boredom or out of necessity (urinating and defecation from being left for long periods of time).

Dog With Separation Anxiety	No Separation Anxiety (Boredom/Left Too Long)
Urinates/defecates shortly after owner's departure (a camera can help determine timing)	Urinates/defecates toward the end of their stay alone
Destroys barriers in an attempt to escape such as walls, crates, and doors	Chews on furniture, shoes, bedding
Exhibits stress during the owner's leaving cues (picking up keys/purse) including pacing, vocalizing, panting, yawning, licking lips, or attempting escape	Remains calm during departure
Requests/requires the owner's presence or touch in order to relax	Relaxes without the owner

Some owners feel their dog is "mad" at them for leaving but that is not the case. Dogs that suffer from separation anxiety are not trying to teach you a lesson. They are acting on physical impulses in response to genuine fear. Dogs depend on social groups for protection and hunting, which means they depend on each other for survival. For many dogs, being alone goes against their natural instincts as a social species and triggers a panic attack. The way dogs with separation anxiety feel when left alone could be compared to the way we would feel if we suddenly found ourselves alone on a life raft in the middle of the ocean. You would be asking yourself, "Is a ship going to come to rescue me? What if a ship doesn't come for me? What if I never make it home?" Your return home, to your dog, is like a ship finally coming to the rescue. Unfortunately, the next time the dog hears you pick up your keys, they worry they will be left alone on the life raft with that same sense of panic.

While separation anxiety is a simple concept, the treatment is complex. All dogs benefit from behavior modification but many need medication as well. Interestingly, if their anxiety level is too high, their brains are not capable of learning which renders behavior modification ineffective. Each dog's lifestyle, symptoms, and treatment will be a little different, but there is hope! If you think your dog is alone on a raft, please call us so we can design a treatment plan that will end their suffering!



HAPPY FALL, Y'ALL! ~FALL PET TIPS~

- This is one of the biggest seasons we see fleas/ticks. We want to remind you that even though it is getting cooler outside, fleas and ticks are still thriving. Please continue using flea/tick and heartworm preventatives.
- Keep pets safe during the Halloween season. NO candy, especially chocolate. Keep decorations out of reach. While it is cute to dress up our pets, please be careful not to put costumes on that are too restrictive or that cover their eyes. Also be aware that sights and sounds may spook them and they will attempt to escape.
- When Thanksgiving rolls around, remember: NO TABLE FOOD! Holiday meals can pose a medical threat for your pets. Chicken or turkey bones can get stuck or can pierce holes in any part of the digestive tract. Other foods can cause pancreatitis or bloat. Keep holiday meals and table scraps out of reach of your pets!
- Fall is the season when snakes are preparing for hibernation, increasing the possibility of bites. Beware of debris piles in your yard, wooded areas, etc.

Fall is a wonderful time of year for both you and your pet.
Take the above precautions and enjoy the season safely!

