

LAKWOOD ANIMAL HOSPITAL PET GAZETTE

Autumn 2017

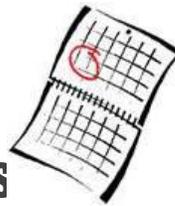
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Join us for Client Appreciation Week October 9-13!



We'll have special events and prizes day of the week. It's all about you -- our wonderful clients! Help us celebrate our 6th anniversary; we wouldn't be here without your support ♥



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CLIENT APPRECIATION WEEK

JOIN US OCTOBER 9-13, 2017

MANIC MONDAY

Stop in for tips on how to support your pet's mental health!

RAFFLE DRAWING - BOREDOM BUSTER BASKETS!

Canine - Slow Feeder, Food & Fetch Toys / Feline - Scratching Pad, Crinkle Tunnel, Food & Catnip Toys

TASTY TUESDAY

Learn how to prevent the most common pet disease - obesity! Our Purina Rep will be here from 12-2 providing lunch and answering questions regarding Purina diets.

RAFFLE DRAWING - Win 3 MONTHS OF PURINA FOOD!

WORMY WEDNESDAY

Our Merial Rep will be here from 12-2 providing lunch and answering questions about flea/tick/heartworm preventatives.

RAFFLE DRAWING - Win a 6-PACK of FRONTLINE or NEXGARD*!

TOOTHY TREAT THURSDAY

Come have a fall beverage and a sweet treat while you learn the truth about dirty teeth.

RAFFLE DRAWING - Win a FREE DENTAL CLEANING! (Value not to exceed \$573.00)

FUN FACT FRIDAY

Enjoy coffee and pastries while testing your knowledge with Trivia Friday!

RAFFLE DRAWING - We will draw the winners of both Grand Prizes:

- Count the Kibbles - Closest guess wins "PAINT YOUR PET" DATE NIGHT
- Wellness Care Giveaway - Win WELLNESS CARE FOR A YEAR!

(Both Grand Prize Drawings can be entered daily!)



*See official rules & what the prize package includes on our website.



KEEP YOUR PET happy THIS Halloween

Your idea of Halloween fun may be ducking trick-or-treaters at home with the lights off or parading your pet in costume up and down the neighborhood streets. Either way, here are some tips to keep your cat, dog, or other pets safe during this haunted holiday.

✓ **DO protect pets from pranks.** Don't leave animals unattended outdoors on Halloween, the day before, or the day after. Cruel pranksters can hurt your animals, especially black cats.

✗ **DON'T feed candy to animals.** Treats that are delicious for children and adults can be harmful or fatal to pets. They can choke on the wrappers, and chocolate is poisonous to dogs and cats. Put Halloween candy in scent-proof baggies, and put a lid on your candy cauldron next to the door.

✓ **DO keep pets away from lit pumpkins.** Spooky colored candles and jack o' lanterns can singe pets' noses and light fur on fire. Keep animals and lit objects apart. This goes for artificial lights as well, such as electric votives and glow sticks. If ingested, glow sticks can cause pain and irritation, as well as profuse drooling and foaming in the mouth.

✗ **DON'T put a reluctant pet in a Halloween costume.** Some pets don't mind a few Halloween accessories, but don't force an anxious animal into an outfit. Make sure any Halloween clothes let your pet breathe, hear, see, and move freely.

✓ **DO license your pet early.** You can do your best to keep your pet indoors this Halloween, but your cat or dog may speed past a gaggle of candy-seeking kids into the night. Be sure you've registered your pet with the city and attached up-to-date identification tags to your pet's collar.

✗ **DON'T mix pets and trick-or-treaters at the front door.** Cats and dogs can frighten children, and vice versa. Put your pets behind a closed door when costumed kids come knocking. This will also prevent your pet from bolting outside during the many times the front door is opened and closed.



If you won't be home with the pets this Halloween, be sure they're comfortable in the house. There may be a lot of doorbell ringing, screaming children and noises that can spook pets. Consider keeping cats and dogs in rooms in the back of the house and turning on some background noise like a radio or TV.

CELEBRATING THE HOLIDAYS WITH HEALTHY PETS

The AVMA offers tips on how to prevent holiday hazards from harming family pets.



Dec 18, 2013

By dvm360.com staff



The smell of the feast is sure to have tails wagging this holiday season, but busy crowds of family and friends and an abundance of food may present safety hazards for your clients' pets. The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) offers the following tips to keep pets safe.

The holiday feast is for people—not pets. Table scraps may seem like a fun way to include a pet in the festivities, but many foods are poisonous to pets including onions, garlic, raisins and grapes.

Just because it's dead, doesn't mean it's not deadly. A turkey carcass left in an open trash container or one that's easily opened could prove deadly if the family pet finds it. A pet that "discovers" the carcass can quickly eat so much that it causes pancreatitis, which can cause death fairly quickly. Dispose of meat carcasses in a covered, tightly secured container (or a trash can behind a closed, locked door) along with anything used to wrap or tie the meat and any bones left on plates—these are also hazards and can be very tempting for pets.

Desserts and pets don't mix. Most people understand that chocolate is poisonous to pets, and that the darker it is the more deadly it is. Baker's chocolate is extremely dangerous to pets. Many dogs find it tempting, and will sniff it out and eat it if they find it. An artificial sweetener called Xylitol has also been shown to be just as deadly to dogs. Xylitol is a common sweetener used in baked goods and chewing gums.

Want to treat a pet? Buy a treat that is made just for him. Pets will enjoy the treat just as much as anything else, and it can spare a holiday spent at the emergency clinic. When treating your pet, make sure the pet treat is not a part of any ongoing recall. For a list of animal food recalls and alerts, go to www.avma.org.

For some pets, houseguests can be scary. Pets shy or excitable around new people may have a hard time around the holidays when new people may be visiting. If a dog or cat can be overwhelmed when people come over, they should stay in another room or in a crate with a favorite toy so they're out of the frenzy and feel safe. Boarding may also be a smart option to remove them completely from this upsetting situation.

(cont.)

If your pet is particularly upset by houseguests, talk to your veterinarian about possible solutions to this common problem. For pets who are comfortable around guests, they should be watched closely when houseguests are entering or leaving. While you're welcoming hungry guests and collecting coats, a four-legged family member may make a break for it out the door and become lost. It's also a good idea to make sure your pet has proper identification, particularly microchip identification with up-to-date registered information, so that if they do sneak out, they'll be returned to you.

Decorations can be dangerous. As holiday tables are dressed with centerpieces and flowers, they should be kept up and away from your pets. Some decorations look good enough to eat and pets may decide to have a taste. Depending on the flower or decoration, this can result in stomach upset or worse. Lilies, in particular, are deadly to cats. Pine cones and needles, if consumed by a pet, can cause an intestinal blockage or even perforate the animal's intestine.

Fire, kids and pets make a bad combination. Dinner by candlelight can provide an elegant atmosphere for a holiday meal, but where there's a flame, there's the opportunity for disaster. Children and pets should be kept away from any open flame or fire. If their safety can't be ensured in the holiday commotion battery operated candles can be used. And forget the fireplace, no amount of elegance or cozy will make up for an injured loved one or a house that's burnt to the ground.

Quick action can save lives. If you believe your pet has been poisoned or eaten something it shouldn't have, call your veterinarian or local veterinary emergency clinic immediately.

“No spring nor summer beauty hath such grace as I have seen in one autumnal face.”
John Donne



Ear inflammation and infection: 5 facts to fight the fiction

“Otitis externa” is the fancy medical term for inflammation or infection of your pet’s outer ear canal. Here are some things some folks believe about recurring ear problems ... and the facts.

You might think ...
“All ear infections are the same, so I can use the same medicine that worked the last time.”

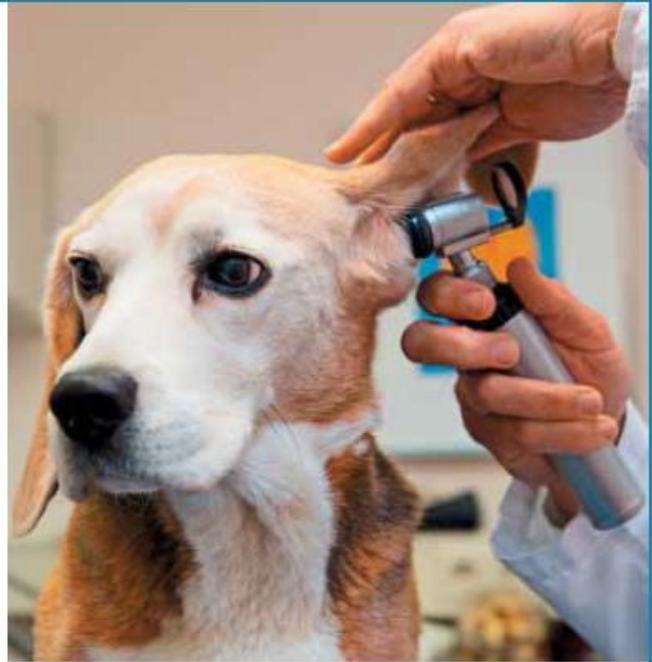
Fact! The veterinarian needs to examine a pet for each ear infection to determine the cause. Ear infections can be caused by a variety of bacteria and yeast, and the treatment recommendations and medications selected will depend on the specific infection and contributing factors. What’s more, the veterinarian needs to examine the pet to determine whether this infection has shown up before or wasn’t resolved.

You might think ...
“If I pluck the hairs out of my dog’s ears, my dog will never get another ear infection.”

Fact! You should avoid hair plucking if the hair isn’t causing a problem. Experts don’t recommend routine hair plucking, because it can cause inflammation.

You might think ...
“My dog has an ear infection, because he caught it from another animal.”

Fact! Ear infections often occur secondary to inflammation in the ear, which may be a symptom of an underlying condition such as allergies. When the



environment in the ear is altered, bacteria or yeast can cause infection. These infections aren’t caught from another pet.

You might think ...
“My dog scratches, licks, or chews because he’s bored, grooming himself, or imitating the family cat.”

Fact! Scratching, licking and chewing are signs of an itchy, allergic dog. If you notice these symptoms, schedule an appointment with the veterinarian. What does this have to do with otitis externa? Allergies are one of the most common causes of ear inflammation and infection. And if a dog is showing signs of allergies, it should have its ears checked too.

You might think ...
“My dog’s ears will be cured so he’ll never get another infection.”

Fact! This may be true if the ear infection didn’t occur due to an underlying problem. But if allergies were the culprit, the ears will be managed along with the allergy over your pet’s lifetime. Your veterinarian needs your help to keep watch over the ears and may ask you to clean them regularly to help prevent inflammation and infection.

5 signs of *dental pain* in pets

Your pets can't tell you when they're suffering from a toothache or other types of pain. If you notice any of these signs, contact your veterinarian to schedule an exam.

1. No signs at all.

Dogs, cats and other companion animals, such as rabbits, rarely show signs of dental pain. This is a survival mechanism, an instinctual behavior that our domesticated animals have in common with their wild ancestors.

2. Bad breath.

The odor is a byproduct of the bacterial metabolic process. In pets with periodontal disease, there is more bacteria in the mouth, and so the odor increases. "Doggy breath" or "tuna breath" is not normal and needs to be evaluated.

3. Altered behavior.

Chewing on one side of the mouth, dropping food, running away from the food dish, crying when yawning, hiding, not grooming themselves and acting "grumpy" are all signs of dental pain. You know your pet better than anyone, so look for abnormal behaviors.

4. Bleeding.

Bleeding from the mouth is usually due to periodontal disease, but it could also be evidence of fractured teeth, lacerations or ulcers on the tongue or gum tissue or the presence of an oral mass. Look for thick, ropery saliva, spots of blood found on toys or beds or drops of blood in the water or food dish. If the periodontal disease is severe enough, you may notice bleeding from the nose or bloody discharge when your pet sneezes.

5. Return to normal.

Once our veterinary team addresses your pet's oral issues, your pooch may show he's feeling better by acting like a puppy again or your kitty might seek extra attention.



Don't let your pets suffer in silence. They don't just have a toothache, they have a whole mouth full of toothaches. Daily dental hygiene is free. All you need is a toothbrush and a couple of minutes to help prevent periodontal disease.