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For more information on us or Articles in this Newsletter please visit these websites.

www.animalmedical.org
Visit our website for additional topics and information regarding our clinic.

Deshedding tool
www.FURminator.com

Contact Us

Visit our website
<http://www.animalmedical.org>

Or email us:
frontdesk@animalmedical.org

The Doctor Is In

Pet First Aid Kit

Be prepared for unexpected injuries or illnesses with a pet first aid kit. We recommend keeping items together in a crush proof and waterproof container and be sure to arrange materials so you are able to find what you need quickly. The following list of suggested items may be modified to meet your pet's specific needs.

- ✓ **Veterinarian's Contact Information** - Have phone numbers for both your family veterinarian and an after-hours emergency veterinarian available. Keep a current vaccine history with this information.
- ✓ **Scissors** - For cutting hair or bandages
- ✓ **Tweezers** - For removing objects from skin or paws
- ✓ **Latex Gloves** - To help protect you and keep wounds sanitary
- ✓ **Gauze Pads** - For cleaning injuries
- ✓ **Gauze Rolls** - To wrap around wounds or use as a safety muzzle
- ✓ **First aid Adhesive tape** - To keep bandages in place
- ✓ **Muzzle** - To prevent your pet from biting you or chewing on an injury while in pain
- ✓ **Eyewash** - To flush debris from eyes
- ✓ **Alcohol Prep Pads** - To sterilize items such as scissors or tweezers
- ✓ **Cold Pack** - To reduce swelling or pain
- ✓ **Digital Thermometer** - To check your pet for a fever
- ✓ **Hydrogen Peroxide** - To clean a wound
- ✓ **Antibacterial Ointment** - To apply to superficial wounds
- ✓ **Blanket or Towel** - To wrap around an injured pet, carry an injured pet and provide warmth.
- ✓ **E-Collar** - A cone shaped protector to prevent your pet from accessing a wound or injury

* **Rabies Recommendation** - Animals in pain may bite you. It is critical that you can provide evidence of your pet's rabies vaccination at all times. Depending on state regulations, a pet without proof of current rabies vaccination may be quarantined.

What's New at Animal Medical Clinic

The FURminator is a professional deshedding tool used for the removal of the undercoat and loose hair. This tool is guaranteed to reduce shedding up to 90% if it is used once or twice a week for 10-20 minutes at a time. The FURminator does not cut or damage the top coat; instead it goes through the top coat and removes the already shed undercoat. The deshedding tool also helps cats with hairballs. It can be used on long or short-haired dogs and cats but is not recommended for non-shedding breeds of dog and cat. It also can be used on rabbits and ferrets. Be sure to read all instructions before handling this product. Visit their website for more info.

www.FURminator.com

Book Mark This!

Read a Book called
Howl: A Collection of the Best
Contemporary Dog Wit.
By: The Editors of Bark
Magazine



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www.dogplay.com



Halloween Pet Safety

- Keep all pets indoors on Halloween-both day and night.
- Leave pets at home while trick-or-treating. They can easily become frightened or lost if taken along.
- Keep pets away from lit jack-o-lanterns.
- When opening the door for trick-or-treaters, be careful that your pet does not dart out.
- Make sure pets are wearing a collar with proper identification in case of accidental escape.
- Confine your pet if the sound of the ringing doorbell or the sight of costumed visitors makes them overly excited or aggressive.
- Do not feed Halloween treats to your pets; they can make the animal very sick and some can be toxic.
- Properly dispose of candy wrappers, which can be hazardous if swallowed.
- If your pet becomes lost, visit your local humane society as soon as possible.
- If you own a black cat, be aware that your pet could be the victim of a Halloween prank. It is recommended to keep your cat indoors a few days prior and following Halloween.

Back-to-school

As kids start going back to school and their schedule changes, your pets can have several behavior changes. Dogs are like pack animals and when their pack starts leaving them for several hours a day they could begin to show it in their behavior.

Separation Anxiety: When everyone leaves and there is no one to play with the dog, they can become stressed. Starting at least 1 week early before the kids go back to school will help this transition. Begin by separating your dog or ignoring them for increasing amounts of time. When you leave don't pamper your dog before you go, instead ignore him up to 10 minutes before you leave. In time your dog will get used to being by themselves more often.

Shelter: Every dog deserves their own shelter, or a place where they will feel safe and they can hide. Once a dog is crate trained most will love theirs and some will even go sleep in there when you're at home. If the dog has to be outside in a kennel while you're away, be sure to get him a dog house, somewhere they can get out of the sun and relax. Providing another soft blanket or shirt of yours is also inviting.

Boredom: Although dogs sleep most of the day, when they wake up they want something to do. There are several ways to entertain them while you're away. Scattering dry food around the house or over a wide area in the backyard will give them something to hunt. Hiding treats, or vegetables, such as baby carrots, in hiding spots also works. Make a sandbox for your outdoor loving living dog to dig in, as a hide a toy in it for him to "discover." Always have toys in the house that they can't destroy, such as the Buster Cube™ and KONG™.

Abnormal Behavior: It is important to train your kids to ignore the pet for 5-10 minutes after just getting home to allow him to settle down. They have a lot of pent-up energy after being alone all day and seeing the kids can result in bad behavior such as biting and jumping up onto the kids.

Sudoku

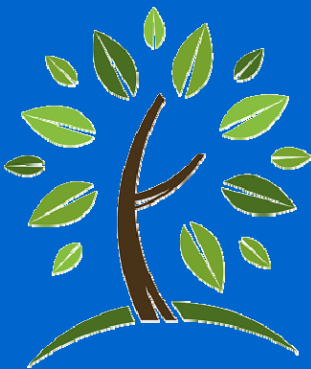
	5	9	1		2			
			9		3			1
7					6	2	9	
		6	4	9		7		
1	2			8			6	5
		7		2	5	4		
	3	8	7					6
6			2		8			
			5		9	3	8	

Go Green for your Pet!

There are several things that can help improve your pet's environment. There is much more that you can do besides just reusing and recycling unwanted items.

These tips will help you do just that:

- ✓ When it's that time of year and you're cleaning out your house, donate your old towels, bedding, leashes, litter boxes and pet toys to your local shelter.
- ✓ Give your pet filtered tap water instead of bottled water, and if you have to use a bottle, recycle it!
- ✓ When picking up your dog's poop use biodegradable bags. If you have a yard, look into getting a doggie septic system. For cat lovers, use an eco-friendly cat litter, avoiding brands with mined minerals.
- ✓ Use eco-friendly pet shampoos and grooming products when possible.
- ✓ For the little furry friends and reptiles, grow your own garden with fruits and veggies. Do some researches on mulching and other gardening practices that can help reduce the amount of insecticides and herbicides you might need.
- ✓ Use vinegar to clean carpeting or flooring, it's environmentally friendly, an effective odor remover and kills mold and bacteria. Keep in mind that the vinegar must be diluted correctly with water.
- ✓ Cutting back on the small things, such as using towels then let them air dry after a bath, walking to the dog park instead of driving, clean up with rags or recycled towels instead of paper products, and using timers for your reptiles heat and light lamps.
- ✓ Don't wear shoes in the house, they carry in extra pesticides, fungicides, and dirt that your pet is exposed to when they lick their paws.



Urinary Tract Infections in Cats

Diseases of the lower urinary tract are some of the most common health problems in the male and female cat. These include UTI, bladder stones, idiopathic cystitis, tumors and urinary obstruction.

Signs of UTI include:

- A cat that suddenly urinates in unusual places
- Frequent urination or straining to urinate (owners sometimes confuse this with a sign of constipation)
- Blood tinged urine
- Lethargic, decreased appetite and increased thirst
- Excessive licking or cleaning of the urethral area

Urgent signs:

Vomiting, dehydration and loss of appetite can be signs of urethral blockage, the inability to urinate. This is more common in male cats and is an emergency situation.

Diagnosis and treatment:

Several diseases of the urinary tract have similar symptoms. The veterinarian will need to perform laboratory tests to further evaluate your cats' condition. Urine and blood tests will check kidney function and their ability to concentrate urine. The presence of blood or bacteria in the urine, as well as stone forming crystals will determine the treatment required. Radiographs may also be necessary to check for blockages or stones.

Be Proactive

Hydration and nutrition are important factors in maintaining good urinary health.

- Provide daily access to clean water
- Clean litter boxes with minimum of one box per cat
- Reduce stress and avoid sudden food changes
- Increase exercise and maintain healthy weight

Call your veterinarian or Emergency clinic if you suspect any of the clinical signs described.

Meet Our Staff - Chris, C.V.T.

Chris is a 2006 graduate of Argosy University and a Certified Veterinary Technician. She joined our team in April of 2007 and resides in St. Paul. Animal Dentistry is her passion and she enjoys teaching about pet oral health.

She is the proud guardian of 3 dogs and 4 cats. Her 3 dogs are Macey and Hogan, her two Australian Shepherds, and an 11 year old, deaf Chihuahua, Louise Wiggle Butt. She enjoys dog sports with her Aussies, including sheep herding with the Great River Stockdog Club and hiking in Minnesota's State Parks.

Macey, a rescued Aussie, is a certified Therapy Dog and enjoys visiting hospitals and making people smile. Louise W.B. the Chihuahua rules the house and is totally in charge! Hogan, the newest member, is also a rescue and is currently learning the rules that he thinks do not apply to him. The cats: Scamper, Pookie and Thirston have all entered her life quite by accident and all enjoy a happy co-existence with canines and humans.