



The Paw Press

Spring / Summer
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2009

Heartworm disease is a serious and potentially fatal condition caused by parasitic worms living in the arteries of the lungs and occasionally in the right side of the heart of dogs. Heartworms are classified as nematodes (roundworms) and filarids are one of many species of roundworms. Dogs of any age or breed are susceptible to infection. Heartworm disease has been reported in all 50 states.

Clinical signs of canine heartworm disease may not be recognized in the early stages, as the number of heartworms in an animal tends to accumulate gradually over a period of months or sometimes years, and after repeated mosquito bites. Recently infected dogs may exhibit no signs of the disease, while heavily infected dogs may eventually show clinical signs, including a mild, persistent cough, reluctance to move or exercise, fatigue after only

moderate exercise, reduced appetite and weight loss. Heartworm infection in apparently healthy animals is usually detected with blood tests for a heartworm substance called "antigens", or microfilaria, although neither test is consistently positive until about seven months after infection has occurred.

Heartworm disease is preventable. We have a couple of options for preventing heartworm infection in dogs, including monthly chewables, and monthly topicals. Both of these methods are extremely effective, and when administered properly on a timely schedule, heartworm infection can be completely prevented. These medications interrupt heartworm development before adult worms reach the lungs and cause disease. Heartworm prevention is safe, easy and inexpensive. While the treatment for heartworm disease in dogs is possible, it is a complicated and expensive process, taking weeks for infected animals to recover.

Cats are Cool...

They walk all over us.
Their wacky antics make us laugh.
Their motors keep our laps warm.
They head butt us to show their love.



But they often hide their illnesses from us.

If your cat shows you any of these signs, contact us:

- Drastic weight gain or loss
- Grooms less or excessively
- Changes in chewing, eating and drinking habits
- Acts out of character
- Withdraws from social interaction or avoids touching
- Increased urination and/or "accidents"
- Increased vocalization
- Changes in activity level including sleeping more or hyperactivity

Just A Reminder...

Thunderstorm season is here, and in just a few weeks we'll be having fireworks. Some pets have anxiety with these. If your pet is one of them, we'd like to remind you we have safe and effective medications including herbal products that can make this time of year much less stressful for you and your pets. We also encourage you to keep your pets indoors during these times.

Did you know?

A cat can see about 6 times better than a human at night.

Over 50% of pet owners would rather be stranded on a desert island with their pet, not another human.

A German Shepherd guide dog led her blind companion the entire 2100 miles of the Appalachian Trail.

Dogs nose prints are as unique as human finger prints and can accurately identify them.

Our goal at Avery Creek Pet Hospital is to provide the highest quality of medical care for our clients and patients by listening to their needs, and by giving exceptional client services in a professional and compassionate manner. We will nurture the bond between humans and animals by teaching our clients how to better care for their pets, thus enabling them to live longer, healthier lives.

Avery Creek Pet Hospital

Use your
indicia



565 Long Shoals Road
Suite 105
Arden, NC 28704
AveryCreekPetHospital.com
828-651-8868

TO:

Staff News!

We would like to introduce the arrival of our newest family member. Our Technician Katie and her husband Chris proudly announce the arrival of their beautiful, healthy baby boy, Logan Oliver. He was born March 13, 2009.

Logan Oliver Walton



In Loving Memory

CoCoo Rusk	Sadie Waddell	Corky Sizemore	Sadie Marie Branks
Cooper Echeverri-Brewington	Mudd Pie Hinnenkamp	Chance Jenkins	Edna Stewart
Nikita Hughes	Sky Nichols	Molly Therien	Hobo McGlamery
Bunkie Branson	Maggie Gregg	Raleigh Goodson	Sadie Nagle
CoCo Cumbie	Chicklet Pope	Smokey Smoke	Luther Toineeta
Buck Calloway	Ming Sue King	Liza Soesbee	Atila Dwyer
Sebastian Tenpenny	Nikita Highes	Noble McGuire	Lucky Wasserman
Buddy Extine	Remy May	Teddy Nelson	Sassy Hatley
Browser Lim	Jeb Soesbee	Fluffy Lovin	Scotch Miller
Virginia Samuels	Leo Moore		

