

Fall 2010 Edition

Issue 11



The Paw Press



Beat the Winter Blues

As the crisp fall days give way to wintry weather, pets and people alike can feel a little down. Less daylight typically means reduced activity and less time spent outdoors.

As many as one in three dog owners see a considerable downturn in their pets' moods during the winter months, and half of the owners surveyed felt their dogs slept longer. One in three cat owners also said that their pet seems sadder and less playful in the winter.

It is important to pay close attention to changes in behavior that may indicate they need a boost of activity during the winter months ahead. Ensuring pets stay active during the winter months is important, below you will find tips to help you.

When is cold, too cold? A good rule of thumb: long-haired dogs can play outdoors for short periods of time when it's above 20°F; short-haired dogs, young pups and elderly dogs should wait until the mercury rises to 40°F.

Consider buying a doggie coat or sweater for outdoor activity, especially for short-haired dogs.

Rock salt and chemicals used to melt snow on pavement can burn and chafe paws. Dogs' feet should be wiped with a warm, damp towel whenever they return from outdoors.

Dog booties are a good idea to help keep sensitive paws protected.

Keep dogs well groomed. Fur that is matted is not as efficient at insulating your pet.

Look for telltale signs such as shivering: animals can become vulnerable to frostbite and hypothermia in less than an hour.

Dogs who spend time running around outdoors in the cold burn extra energy to keep warm, and they may need more food than normal.

Ensure fresh water is available when pets come inside after a walk or outdoor play.

Avoid using a metal water bowl outside—we all know what happens when you stick your tongue to a metal pole!

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



Gunner McLendon



Senior Wellness Care

Did you know?

- When grooming, cats lose almost as much saliva as they do urine when they urinate.
- Domestic cats are the only species able to hold their tail vertically while walking.
- Dalmatians are the only dogs that get gout.
- Dogs have twice as many muscles for moving their ears as people do.

The life cycle of our family pets can be divided into several phases, similar in many ways to our own stages of life. We pass from newborn through adolescence to adulthood on our way to becoming senior citizens. Unfortunately our pets pass through these life stages within a relatively condensed time period:

A general rule of thumb is that our pets age approximately seven years for each one of our years.

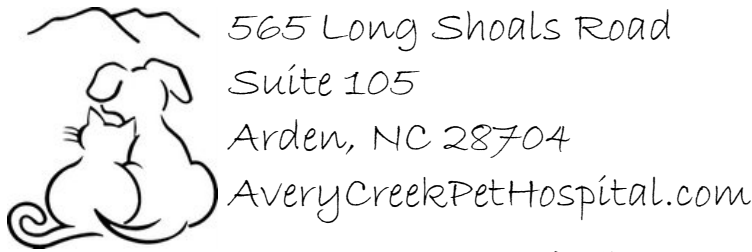
However, the rate at which any individual pet ages is determined by many factors including breed, size, nutrition, and lifestyle.

As our pets age, changes in behavior and physical condition inevitably occur. It can be very difficult for us to detect the early sub-clinical signs of these age-related diseases in our pets. For both dogs and cats, heart disease, kidney disease, thyroid conditions, diabetes, arthritis, and cancer are just a few of the more common diseases affecting our senior pets.

Early diagnosis is an important key in the preventative care of pets and is possible only through routine examinations and laboratory testing of apparently "healthy" animals.

Avery Creek Pet Hospital

Use your
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We all love and adore our pets and have been caught bragging about them. We've come up with a new way to do that. On your next visit into our office, you will see that we have created an area in our exam rooms for our staff and clients to share pictures of our furry friends. We are encouraging all of you to help our wall be successful by bringing in pictures of your own pets to share.

Word Search

Veterinarian	B X C M I C R O C H I P F O S A
Fleas	N A D J L O P H B G W A Q B V R
Microchip	E B G H A O V R A M S P A Y N W
Dog	U C S D F L E A S B H U K L Y E
Cat	T B H N I M T V C T R D O G X L
Spay	E Z A O W E E Y T F G C M L K L
Vaccines	R P B N J H R C G H T U K D X N
Wellness Care	C F O R D T I X S A I X C N I E
Neuter	Q V A C C I N E S B C N A M U S
Dentistry	P Y R V B W A Q Y B K D T I B S
Ticks	S C D A H I R G T R S M K L P C
Heartworms	I U I C B V I A W E U I P Y S A
Boarding	T W N T H E A R T W O R M S P R
	P A G O P N N Y U N M B I L O E
	D S W E A M R O P L E X A M I A
	B D E N T I S T R Y H P Y T G B

In Loving Memory

Lady Bug Sellers	Tink Murdoch	Abbey Ludlum-Stephens	Fox Cavazos
Kasey Moore	Mason Tipton	Baby Martin	Mittens Pollard
Lacey Weatherman	Willie McCurry	Lily Sigmon	BoBo Green
Libby McDevitt	Bailey Cupp	Cleopatra Gettman	Kit Holcombe
Tiger Butterick	Doodles Johnson	Streak Johnson	Deacon Waldrup
Shotzy Suddreth	Boo Johnson	Kool Kitty Parkinson	Abbie Fuller
Sunny Filmore	Angel Wallace	Abbie Fuller	Killer Johnson
George Jones Graf	Tick Lawther	Franklin Kelly	A.J. Smith-McLendon
Lucy Camerom	Jojo McDonald	Prissy Punta	Buffy Sachs
Rascal Lenihan	Boo Boo Sladky	Shadow Watterson	Silver King
Sugar Stanfield	Tomas Propst	Libby Clark	Twinkle Lindsey

