

Dr. Tammy Wilde & Associates

Why 'de-worming' is a MUST!

Spring is now here and it is never too early to start thinking about de-worming your pets. We may think of worms as harmless creatures but for your pet they can have devastating effects. It is important to understand the damage that these worms can do, so be sure to ask your pet's healthcare team for more information on how to protect your pet. **Remember, some of these can be passed to humans!**

HOOKWORMS



Hookworms do not need a 'host' to be transmitted, although rodents may play a role in the transmission of this parasite. Hookworm eggs are passed in the host's feces. Infection can occur via ingestion (swallowing) or skin penetration (commonly absorbed through the feet). Hookworms move around constantly as they feed, leaving many bleeding wounds. Severe hookworm infection produces bloody mucus-laden diarrhea, can impair growth and physical ability, cause anemia, weakness, weight loss, dermatitis and poor hair coat. Puppies and kittens are affected more severely since they are less able to cope with depleted iron reserves.

HEARTWORMS



Heartworm disease is a serious, and potentially fatal, condition caused by parasitic worms living in the arteries of the lungs and in the right side of the heart of dogs and cats (and in rare instances, humans). It is transmitted by mosquitoes, when a mosquito carrying infective heartworm larvae bites another animal and transmits the infection. If left untreated, heartworms are almost always fatal.

ROUNDWORMS



These are transmitted in a pet's feces as the roundworm egg develops in an outdoor environment before it becomes able to infect a new 'host'. Sometimes there are no visible symptoms, and in more severe cases animals may exhibit signs of anemia, constipation, weight loss, bulging abdomens, hair coats that lack luster and shine, vomiting and diarrhea. If the roundworms have infested the lungs then respiratory problems such as coughing and pneumonia can also be present. Severe infections can damage the liver, lungs and brain.

WHIPWORMS



Whipworms are common in dogs, and they become infected by ingesting the whipworm eggs. As a dog walks over the eggs and licks its' paws, or egg infested soil gets on their toys, food or water dishes, the eggs are swallowed. The whipworms burrow their mouths into the intestinal wall and feed on blood. Small amounts of whipworms show no visible signs, however larger numbers can result in inflammation of the intestinal wall and sometimes hemorrhaging into the intestine occurs and anemia can result. Weight loss, diarrhea and fresh blood in the feces are also signs of heavy infestation.

TAPEWORMS



For pets to become infected with tapeworm, they must swallow a flea that contains tapeworm eggs. This usually happens when your pet chews or licks its skin as a flea bites and the flea is then swallowed. As the flea is digested within the intestine, the tapeworm hatches and attaches itself to the intestinal lining. Most tapeworm infestations go totally unnoticed and we rarely ever know unless we find a worm on the couch or see them in feces. Although tapeworms are not highly harmful to your pet, they will cause them some discomfort. You may hear a rumbling tummy (where the animal has increased intestinal movement), cramping and sometimes gas.



TAURUS

21 April - 20 May

DOGS: The Taurean dog is loyal, faithful and easy to train. They make the perfect guide dogs and are great with children. They are big softies and everyone adores their kind nature. They are strong when young but can be prone to gaining weight with age. It is rare to find an older Taurean dog that's not "chubby". Their first love is food but a close second is music. If you want to keep your Taurean dog happy, play them some Beethoven - they'll sit and listen for hours and may even howl along. They are delightfully cuddly and playful and their antics will have you in stitches.

CATS: Many Taurean cats have big beautiful eyes - a gift from their ruling planet Venus. When young they could easily win at cat shows. One word of caution ... if you feed a special treat such as fresh fish to a Taurean cat they might refuse to eat anything else. The Venus ruled Taurean feline takes a sensuous delight in luxury and will be forever on your lap wanting lots of pampering. They do not roam far from home. They are very much the homebody and are less inclined to travel - they like luxury too much to roam. They prefer to sit on the porch and watch other animals and birds entertain them.

HELP PREVENT LAWN BURN

Green-UM is a daily tablet given to dogs which has been specially formulated to help control lawn burn, by diminishing those unsightly yellow spots on lawns. In addition, Green-UM contains essential B-Vitamins from Yeast, the essential amino acid (Methionine) and other ingredients that can provide nutritional support for your pet, therefore it can benefit both your pet and your lawn at the same time. Green-UM can also alleviate burns on plants and shrubs caused by pets using them as their "favorite spot".

- It is completely safe for your dogs and garden
- Contains no chemicals, no artificial colorings and causes no harmful side effects
- Does not alter urinary pH levels and, therefore, has no effect on the kidney function



** Suitable for dogs **



Garden enthusiasts do not necessarily have to be animal owners to suffer the effects of lawn burn on their beautifully manicured lawns. Therefore we also have a convenient, effective Green-UM Spray, which helps deal promptly with the effects of damaging pet waste on the lawn and will also help to reduce the amount of re-seeding necessary to cultivate a healthy and luscious lawn. An external product, simply spray directly onto the grass where a dog or cat has just urinated. Green-UM Spray is bio-degradable, totally safe and contains a natural green dye to reduce the discoloration of the patch.

NEW "SLIM-FIT" PROGRAM

Is your pet's excess weight affecting their health? Talk to our pet nutritionist Kathy Michaud, A.H.T., about the new "Slim Fit" program from Medi-Cal & Royal Canin. This weight loss program is designed for both cats and dogs and offers information and advice on nutrition (food) and exercise. This program will assist you in recognizing the health benefits of ideal weight. Our veterinary healthcare team will help you step-by-step through the weight loss program and well into the post slimming phase with consistent monitoring and advice. The "Slim-Fit" program not only contains an appropriate food selection for your individual pet, but also contains a valuable weight loss guide packed with useful information and progress charts, and we will customize an individual weight loss plan for your pet. We are pleased to offer this "Slim-Fit" program as a complimentary service to clients of Tudor Glen Veterinary Clinic so please speak to one of our veterinary team who can explain the benefits in further detail.



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