

Paws for News, Adair County Animal Hospital

April 2011

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FREE RABIES VACCINATION
At our office thru 5-31-11 with the
purchase of 6 Frontline
(plus one FREE)

Foaling Season

Mares need to have a well planned pregnancy to ensure the best success at foaling time. It is crucial to keep them up to date of vaccinations and feed them appropriately in order to avoid some of the pitfalls of disease during pregnancy. Begin by making certain you are addressing their nutrition. Many owners are not aware that Kentucky's grass pastures can contain a fungus that contributes to a thickening of the placenta and poor milk production. For this reason mares should be kept up off of pasture for the last 3 months of their pregnancy and fed a fescue free grass hay or alfalfa hay. Placing your mare on a Vitamin E and Selenium supplement can also help avoid this problem, but does not replace avoiding Fescue. Remember when timing the vaccination of your mare that boosting her vaccines 30 days prior to her expected foaling date will maximize the maternal antibodies in her colostrum (that first essential milk). Basic vaccines for a pregnant mare should be Tetanus, Western and Eastern Equine Encephalitis, Rhinopneumonitis and influenza. Additional vaccinations that may be needed are; West Nile, Strangles and Rabies vaccines. If milk production does become an issue there is a supplement that can be begun (beginning up to 14 days prior to her due date) to help ensure adequate amounts are present when the foal is born. (Cont. page 2)

Swine Flu

A cat in Wisconsin tested positive for H1N1. It presented with difficulty breathing. It's housemate did likewise. They both were euthanized after not responding to treatment. The owner had had flu like symptoms a few days before they became sick and it is believed that they contracted the virus from their owner. There have not been any documented cases of humans contracting H1N1 from pets. Symptoms may include; Cough, Sneezing, eye/nasal discharge, fever, lethargy, loss of appetite, difficulty breathing, rapid breathing and respiratory distress.

VPN, April 2011

Ticks, Ticks everywhere...

Tick season is here and the problem can be difficult to address with even the best topical products.

Ticks are a problem in our area from sometimes as early as February into September / October. We often speak of treating fleas and ticks in the same breath, but there are substantial differences in how we go about dealing with them. The majority of the fleas our pets (dogs and cats) deal with here in South Central Kentucky are of one species... the cat flea. However, our pets have 4 different species of ticks to contend with. In some parts of North America pets can contract up to 7 species of ticks. These ticks can bite and live on multiple different species and survive in a variety of habitats. Due to many environmental factors the Lone Star tick and the Black Legged tick (deer tick) have increased their distribution / range. The white tail deer and wild turkey are considered ideal hosts for the Lone Star Tick. Areas where the White Tailed Deer is plentiful are also where large populations of Deer Ticks can be found. Technically both of these ticks are "deer ticks". At the beginning of the 20th Century the deer population had dropped dramatically. When regulations to control unrestricted hunting were instituted the deer population surged from around 500,000 nationwide to 27.7 million by 2005. The resurgence of ticks mirrored that of the deer.

Tick control has not advanced in the way that flea control has over the years. We now have topical flea controls that actually kill flea eggs and prevent further flea production



Engorged Deer Tick

by the individual fleas. Another reason

that we are successful in eliminating flea infestations on our pets is because we are targeting (in most cases) the primary host, our dog or cat. This is not the case in ticks. Their primary hosts are wildlife. [coyotes, deer, rabbits, opossums, raccoons, woodchucks, and squirrels]

The effectiveness of our tick treatments can be varied based on exposure. If an animal is treated with an acaricide (Frontline or Advantix etc.) and is exposed to a few ticks, it is likely that all of those ticks will be killed. If they are exposed to a high number of ticks however, some of the ticks may survive. This can be observed as a lack of efficacy. In areas where the tick population is growing products may not always be 100% effective and therefore disease transmission can occur.



Lone Star Tick

Ticks transmit numerous diseases. Some of the more important diseases being; Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis, Cytauxzoonosis, Ehrlichiosis, Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever. The heartworm test we run each year on our clients dogs screens for three of these diseases.

Grass, weeds, bushes and wood piles can be sources of tick infestation. Clean these areas to decrease the burden in your area. Discourage Wildlife from your gardens / yards.

Whatever the factors, everyone needs to understand that ticks can still get on your pet and transmit disease in some cases. Be diligent with monthly applications of tick preventatives or Preventic collars and check your pet for ticks daily.

Summarized article by Dr. Dryden, VPN, 2011. Dr. Rexroat

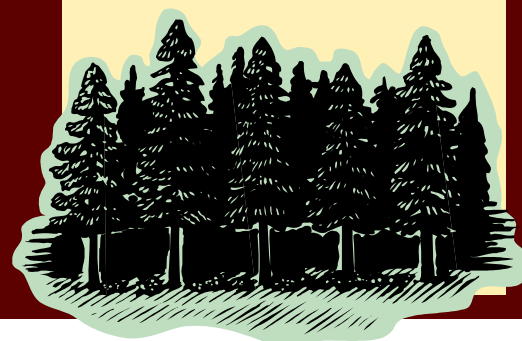


Foaling Season (cont)

If your foal is born and the mare does not have any milk, it is essential that you get a colostrum supplement in the foal in the first 12-24 hours. Many times the mares milk appears clear initially. If the foal is nursing and seems satisfied, don't be alarmed if what he/she is drinking is thick, syrup like and clear. There is a simple test that we (the veterinarian) can run after the foal is 24 hours old to tell you will your foal received adequate colostrum.

After the foal is born there are few things that you will want to be certain to do. The foal should nurse well. The mare should clean herself within 3 hours. [If she does not, you have a medical emergency on your hands and need to call the veterinarian.] If all goes well, don't forget to dip the foals navel in povidone (mild iodine) or chlorhexadine scrub / solution. Give the foal and mare a tetanus anti-toxin, and give the foal an enema. Make certain that the foal passes that first bowel movement. He / She can colic if it is not passed right away.

Then sit back and enjoy to wonderful miracle of your new equine baby!





Dietary Management of Urinary stones.

Is your cat prone to urinating outside the litter box? Do they frequent our office for urinary tract infections? The underlying problem could be more easily managed, but changing their food to a diet that adjusts the pH of their urine and increased their thirst, thereby diluting the minerals that promote stone development. Medicine in a bag.

Diet is what we have found at our office has helped dozens of our patients with the most common cat ailment we see. A little over a year ago we changed the food we carry at the Adair County Animal Hospital. We were long time, very loyal Science Diet users, but changing to Royal Canin has been one of the best decisions we have made. The food is much more palatable to our patients, costs less than Science Diet and is better at treating the ailments that we prescribe the food for. The maintenance diets have supplements built into them that helps your pet avoid certain disease / health issues all together.

The biggest benefit however, has been for our feline and canine patients who have a

tendency to develop bladder / kidney stones. We have multiple cat households that we were seeing on a routine basis for urinary tract disease. Once those cats were placed on the Urinary SO diet they have done so well that they have only been in once or twice for this issue over the past year. (A decrease from a case every 1-2 weeks, to 1-2 per year!) These are dramatic results.

Diet can help with so many illnesses. From treatment to prevention, I encourage you to inquire about dietary treatment. If your pet has an ongoing ailment it may help keep them healthy for years to come.

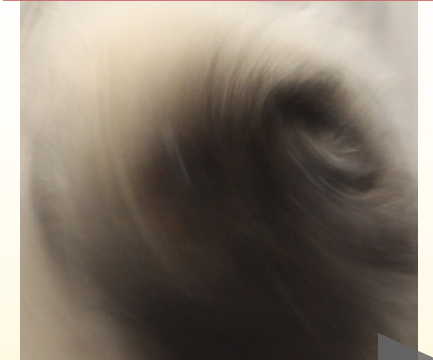
Free Rabies Vaccination

With the purchase of 6 Frontline Plus you will get one FREE tube and a FREE Rabies Vaccination for your Pet. Call today for your appointment or stop by the office.

Good now thru May 31, 2011



Can you guess what this is?



See the next page for the answer

Obesity and Anesthesia

Aging can affect the body's overall composition and metabolism. Geriatric patients tend to have less muscle mass and total body water but a larger percentage of fat, which changes the distribution of fat- or water-soluble drugs. Basal metabolic rate decreases, and poor thermoregulation may lead to hypothermia, which can produce arrhythmias, decreased coagulation, decreased



minimum alveolar concentration, and increased risk for infection.



The Answer is: Katie



Upcoming Events / Promotions

Advantage Multi Products

Buy 6 get 2 FREE and \$25 rebate

Buy 12 get 4 FREE and \$50 rebate

Offer good while coupons last. Limited availability.

Burkesville Office Up dates:

As many of you know we are now doing surgeries and teeth cleanings in our Burkesville office.

We also wanted to announce that beginning in April the office will be open on Thursdays for Grooms, purchases and scheduling.

Call or stop by to make you appointment or pick up items you may need.

Office hours:

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri.

8am—5pm CST

Rabies Clinic: May 2nd—7th, 2011

Spay / Neuter Clinic April 11th— 15th and May 9th— 13th, 2011.

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Good now thru May 31, 2011

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