



**ADVANCED
PET CARE CLINIC**

"De-Tails"

December/January 2011

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO ALL!!!



We have actually come full circle here at Advanced Pet Care Clinic! It has been one year this month since we opened our doors for business, and what a year it has been! As a staff we have learned so much about starting out fresh in the business world, working together as a team, as well as getting to know you and your pets. I will have to say, the latter has been my favorite, as I'm sure the rest will agree. I would also LOVE to tell you "it's been a piece of cake", "no worries", and "anyone could do it", but I have to be honest (Santa IS on our email list, you know), we have had our moments! How we still have computers at the front desk instead of the front parking lot is amazing to me... We've come a long way, and we sure hope you've noticed! Thank you for putting your trust and confidence in us and allowing us take care of your beloved companions!



CAN'T STRESS ENOUGH...the importance of Holiday Safety for our four-legged friends! Just a reminder that we should keep the ribbons, tinsel, etc. picked up and away from our pets! Some of the strange things that have had to be surgically removed and the cost that it has incurred may help make us more aware this holiday season:

Cats - Hair band: \$1,505
Toy ball: \$1,451

Dogs - Snail bait: \$146
Toy: \$669
Sock: \$1,173
Golf balls: \$1,844
Dental floss: \$3,590
Loose change: \$1,018



THERAPEUTIC LASER THERAPY

We are so excited to tell you about a new service we are now offering here at Advanced Pet Care Clinic ! Therapeutic Laser Treatments are now available to help in the healing process for your pet. Our certified staff members have been trained to skillfully administer therapeutic treatments for a variety of reasons. Laser therapy is a remarkable treatment for many cases of acute and chronic pain, inflammation, and wound healing. It can be used alone or in conjunction with other modes of treatment, and has the benefit of being a drug-free, non-surgical, safe treatment that provides lasting pain relief.

How does Laser Therapy Work?

When a laser applies red or near-infrared light to tissue for the appropriate amount of time, a reaction occurs that stimulates tissue regeneration, reduces swelling and inflammation, and decreases pain. We have found that applying it to post surgical patients, for instance a spay or neuter, has sped up the healing process at the incision area. Pain is reduced from endorphins that laser treatment helps to release, therefore decreasing the need for drugs in some cases. Traumatic skin injuries such as hot spots and lick granulomas can benefit greatly from laser therapy because of the faster healing ability it gives the cells and tissue.

Laser Therapy is not used for wound patients exclusively. Dr. Stevenson has also used it for chronic lameness and arthritis in pets. This healing modality works well with chiropractic treatment as well as a standalone therapy. When used with chiropractic, it reduces the swelling of the tissue, which in turn helps to “hold” the adjustments better. Pets with arthritis can also benefit from the use of laser therapy as it again reduces swelling and minimizes the pain that goes along with it. In many cases, laser treatment can decrease and even eliminate the need for arthritis pain medication. Laser treatments can be used as a onetime treatment for an acute problem, or a course of 6 or more treatments for treatment and maintenance of chronic problems. Of course, there are no miracle cures for arthritis, but laser therapy can help make our ‘senior’ pets enjoy their days a bit more.

Giving our pets the chance to have a faster recovery time with less pain is what it’s really all about! Call us if you feel your dog or cat may benefit from this treatment!

Our New Little Bundle of Joy Has Arrived!

*Last newsletter we introduced you to our clinic cat, Izzy!
This month we have another addition to our family! Audra,
her husband Wade, and two children, Payton and Camden,
welcomed a new baby girl into the world!! Her name is Tegan Paige, and is she a
beaut! I guess she has an excuse for not getting to her "Ask Audra" column...but
next month she's not off the hook! Congratulations, Audra and family!
Hurry back!!!!*



Let's Get Crackin' Heather!!!



Coprophagia - The ingestion of poop.

Not a pretty subject...one that may cause some of you with “more delicate sensibilities” to want to skip this article. We have had enough pet owners, though, that have been plagued with this problem that we felt it was an issue that should be addressed.

There are many reasons that a dog may eat poop. Mothers have this urge implanted in them as a survival instinct for their puppies. They will eat their pups’ feces to keep the nest clean, as an unclean nest could attract unwanted predators. When puppies are first born they do not have the ability to eliminate on their own. Mothers will lick their young to stimulate the defecation reflex.

Some dogs do it out of boredom or loneliness. This can sometimes be a sign of neglect. They may also just be hungry and looking for something to eat. Stress can lead to this behavior. Eating poop can also be a learned behavior that they have picked up from other dogs. If they are eating other dogs’ feces it may be they like the taste because of something different in their diet. If your pet has been punished for “going” in the house, they may eat the evidence to keep from getting into trouble again. It can also be a good way to get attention. We also tend to see an increase in this behavior in the winter. Frozen tends to be more palatable than fresh! Again, there are many possibilities as to why they are eating their own or others feces, but many times it is just because they like the taste of it, and then it becomes a real habit!

Regardless of the reason, it can be a hazard for your dog as well as your family. Internal parasites and organisms are transmitted in cat feces causing health problems for everyone involved. Dogs that eat from litter boxes put your family at risk since they both are often hosts to parasites that can infect children, causing a variety of health concerns.

CoproBan has been named one of the best Pet Products of the Year by Dr. Marty Becker, contributor to Good Morning America. This is our Featured Product of the Month. If your dog is exhibiting signs of Coprophagia ask Dr. Stevenson about CoproBan. It comes as an easy-to-feed roast beef flavor soft chew that contains MSG & cellulose. These two ingredients change the taste of the stool making it unpleasant for the dogs to eat. “It’s not a bad dog, just a bad habit!”



Leptospirosis - Lepto

Leptospirosis is one of the most often transmitted diseases in the world. It is not exclusive to animals only, as humans can contract it also.

In recent months, we have seen an increase of Leptospirosis in the state of Iowa. This is something that we have previously vaccinated for, but because more strains are being found, vaccines have had to change and update to accommodate this disease.

We usually find Lepto during warm, humid weather, and in stagnant or slow moving water. Outbreaks often occur after heavy rainfall or flooding. In dry areas, infections are more common around water sources.

Lepto is transmitted through contact with infected urine, venereal and placental transfer, bite wounds or the ingestion of infected tissue. Indirect transmission occurs through exposure of susceptible animals to water sources, food or even bedding.

Infection happens when Leptospirosis penetrates the mucous membranes or abrasions of your dog. It multiplies quickly upon entering the bloodstream, spreading to the kidneys, liver, spleen, nervous system, eyes, and genital tract. The infection usually runs its course in 7-8 days upon onset, and clears from most of the organs. It may persist in the kidneys, though, where it can be passed on through the urine for months to follow. Depending on the severity of damage to the tissue and organs, recovery can be questionable.

Some of the first symptoms or signs to be aware of:

- Fever of 103 - 104 degrees*
- Shivering*
- Muscle tenderness*
- Vomiting and rapid dehydration*

Severely infected dogs may develop hypothermia, become depressed and die before kidney or liver failure develops. Sometimes symptoms may develop further into the infection:

- Fever*
- Anorexia*
- Vomiting*
- Dehydration and increased thirst*

The dog may not want to move because of muscle and kidney pain. It is also possible that they may develop chronic renal failure.

Even though an infected dog can be subject to severe infection and death, the majority of them may not show outward signs of the disease, but will continue to pass it through their urine for years.

Izzy

Heather

Samantha

Merry

Christmas

Ashley

Dr. Tammy Stevenson

&

Audra

Antonia

A

Lisa

Happy
New Year!!!

From your Friends
And Staff

At

Advanced Pet Care Clinic
“Warm Hearts Caring for Cold Noses”