



**ADVANCED
PET CARE CLINIC**

"De-Tails"

June/July 2010 Newsletter

Vacation!! And isn't it amazing how they know? As soon as those suitcases come out they know someone is going somewhere and they want to be included! Traveling with our pets can be a pleasurable experience if we plan ahead and leave prepared. "Load and Go" with your pet in the back seat works for a trip across town, but for an extended trip we have a few suggestions to make for the sake of our furry friends.

Make sure that your pet is safe and secure in a well ventilated crate or carrier. It can be a hard or soft side, but be sure it is large enough for your pet to stand, sit, lie down and turn around in. Take them for short rides and gradually increase the length of time they are in the vehicle. This will get them accustomed to it before leaving on your trip. The carrier should be secured for quick stops and turns.

Feeding your pet a light meal 3-4 hours before departure is helpful for those pets that do become nauseous. Do not feed them in the vehicle even on a long trip. BYOB of water in case there is a difference that may cause tummy upset.

Never leave your pet alone in a parked vehicle. Hot days can turn a car into a furnace in a matter of minutes, causing heat stroke.

Travel kits are a good idea for animals as well. Include travel papers, food, bowls, leash, waste scoop, plastic

bags, grooming supplies, medications and a first aid kit. A favorite toy, pillow or blanket can give your pet a sense of familiarity in strange surroundings.

Micro-chip to identify, and a collar with tags imprinted with name, address and cell phone number are a good idea in case your pet gets separated from you. You can also have tags made up that have your destination and relevant contact information.

How many of you have pets that like to ride with their heads out the window? Please remember to put the child safety lock on so that your pet does not accidentally roll the window up on his/her neck. Pets should ride in the back seats in secured crates or a harness attached to the seat belt.

Remember to take your pet's vaccination records and health certificate along when traveling out of state or out of the country as some states require proof of vaccines.

Since taking our pets with us on our trips is not always an option, we have a few other ideas for you to consider. There are kennels for boarding over night or extended stays, or professional pet sitters, which have really started to take off in the Cedar Valley Area. It is a great way to keep your pet in the comfort of their own home, while removing the stress of leaving home from them as well as yourself. You are able to schedule when the sitters come into your home, when to take them for a walk or play in the yard, give medications, etc. Here are a few that we recommend in the area:

HAPPY TAILS PET SITTING SERVICE – contact Marcia Mercurio to set up an appointment for your pet today! (319)215-7631 or e-mail her at Merc@cfu.net References upon request!

DUSK-TO-DAWN PROFESSIONAL PET SITTERS contact Dawn Colbert to schedule your appointment today at (319)277-1965 or visit her website at www.dusktodawnpets.com !

AALII COUNTRY KENNEL – offers dog and cat boarding. The facility has air conditioning/heat, Indoor/outdoor runs, and is state licensed. Kathy's personal care is given daily for your pet. Monthly rates are also available. (319)987-2656
7611 N. Union Rd.
Cedar Falls, IA 50613

MORTENSON KENNELS – has been providing the Cedar Valley with dog boarding of the highest quality since 2002! They are a professional boarding kennel that prides themselves on providing your dog with a clean, comfortable and safe place to stay, while offering you affordable care with the highest quality in product and service.

www.MORTENSONKENNELS.COM

(319)231-4618 or (319)987-2369

2721 Ivory Avenue
Janesville, IA 50647



HOW TO REMOVE A TICK FROM YOUR PET

So, you've found a tick on your pet - how do you deal with it? While it's important to get these "little suckers" off quickly, ASPCA Veterinarians advise that you stay calm and don't rush it. Moving too fast when removing a tick could potentially create more problems, both for your pet and you.

While the following instructions utilize tweezers, be aware that there are some very good products on the market that are designed especially for safe tick removal. If you live in a tick-heavy area it is a good idea to have one of these tools on hand. They generally work better than tweezers at getting the whole tick, and are relatively inexpensive, but tweezers will work in a pinch.

Step 1-Prepare its Final Resting Place

Throwing a tick in the trash or flushing it down the toilet will not kill it, and it's actually best to hold on to it for awhile for veterinary testing in case your pet falls ill from the bite. Be ready to place the tick in a screw-top jar containing some rubbing alcohol after you remove it.

Step 2-Don't Bare Hand It

Wear latex or rubber gloves so you won't ever have direct contact with the tick or your pet's bite area. Ticks can carry infective agents that may enter your bloodstream through breaks in your skin or through mucous membranes (if you touch your mouth, nostrils or eyes).

Step 3-Grab a Partner

You don't want your pet squirming away before you're finished, so if possible, have a helper on hand to distract, soothe or hold him/her still.

Step 4-The Removal

Treat the bite area with rubbing alcohol and, using a pair of tweezers, grasp the tick as close to the animal's skin as possible. Pull straight out in the opposite direction that the tick went into the skin, with steady, even pressure. Place the tick in your jar.

DO NOT twist or jerk the tick! This may leave the mouth parts embedded in your pet, or cause the tick to regurgitate infective fluids.

DO NOT squeeze or crush the body of the tick, because its fluids (saliva and gut contents) may contain infective organisms.

Step 5-All that Remains

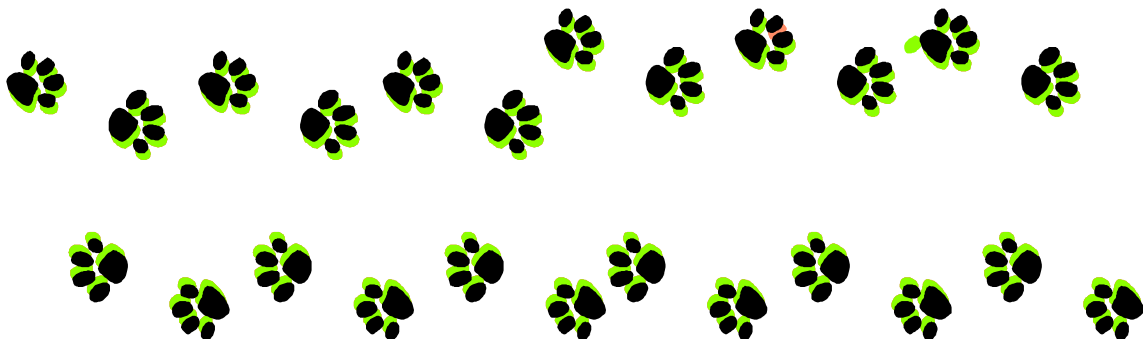
Sometimes, in spite of doing everything right, a tick's mouth-parts will get left behind in your pet's skin. If the area doesn't appear red or inflamed the best thing to do is to disinfect it and not to try to take the mouth-parts out. A warm compress to the area might help the body expel them, but do not go at it with the tweezers.

Step 6-Clean Up

Thoroughly disinfect the bite site and wash your hands with soap and water (even though you were wearing gloves). Sterilize your tweezers with alcohol or by carefully running them over a flame.

Step 7- Keep Watch

Over the next few weeks, closely monitor the bite area for any signs of localized infection. If the area is already red and inflamed, or becomes so later, please bring your pet-and your jarred tick to your veterinarian for evaluation.



Every newsletter we like to feature a product that we think many of you may be interested in. Last month was the Easy Walk Harness and WOW did we get a great response! Those of you that came in and purchased one raved about the difference! Thanks for letting us know how they worked out for you!

We are excited to let you know about how much we LOVE the Feature Product this time!

THE FURMINATOR

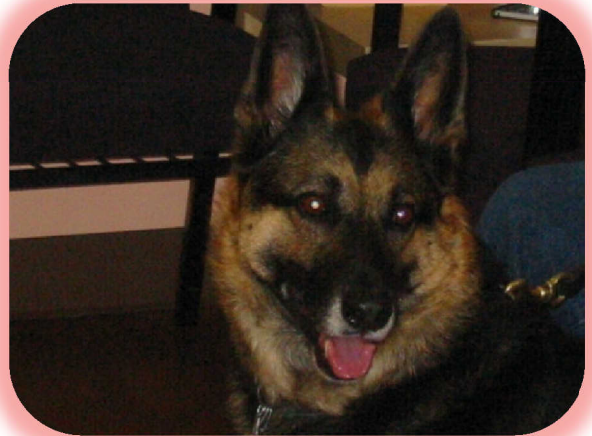
It is the shedding season (April - June and August - Sept) and if you are struggling with excessive amounts of pet hair, we have the product for you! **THE FUR**minator tool has been created to reduce shedding on cats, dogs, rabbits and ferrets! There are also **FUR**minator's available for horses and cattle. (Whoa, think of the hair on that couch!) It is actually fine to use this tool every day, but not necessary to use that often. One to 2 times weekly for 10 to 20 minutes will reduce shedding **up to 90%** for your long or shorthaired pets!

How does it work? The unique design of the **FUR**minator gives it the ability to push through the topcoat to remove the dead undercoat and loose hair beneath it. It does not cut or damage the topcoat in any way. The **FUR**minator is not meant for removing mats or tangles from your pet's fur, only as a de-shedding tool. Nominated as the #1 product to reduce hairballs in cats, the **FUR**minator, used on a regular basis along with the cat shampoo reduces shedding, thus reducing the amount of hair ingested by your cat! Always a plus in the cat world!!!

Stop in and compare our prices! We sell the **FUR**minator at a much lower price than a lot of pet care stores in the Cedar Valley area!



Meet **Franklin DeVary**, one of the students signed up for Obedience Class!



Cindy stops in to visit us on a regular basis! We thought she liked us, but we think it's really the treats!!

The Cedar Bend Humane Society is opening a new Adoption Center! It will be open to the public on June 12th. Thanks to all of you who have supported their commitment to helping make their dream of building a new home a reality! Adopt a pet from the Humane Society and we thank you with a FREE first exam for them!

Anyone out there heard of **RESCUE INK?** What a great show about rescuing abused animals! You can find it on the National Geographic Channel. Check out the listings. You will love it!



Meet **Bentley Martin**, who is also attending Obedience Class in June!!

A big thanks goes out to everyone who "facebooked", called in, or e-mailed us with ideas for naming our newsletter!! We had a hard time choosing from the many submissions, but we want to congratulate **CAROLYN MARTIN** for coming up with the name "De-Tails"!

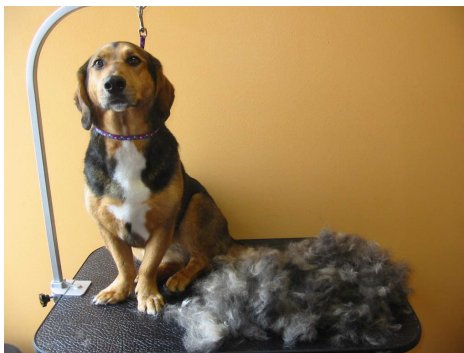
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In our last newsletter we introduced you to Audra, our Registered Vet Technician. This month we would like to feature our groomer, **Heather Nicholson**. Heather, who is a native of Cedar Falls, graduated from the University of Iowa with a bachelor's degree in English and a minor in Human Relations. In 2009 she attended the grooming academy thru Pet Smart in Milwaukee, Wisconsin where she trained under a Pet Stylist with over 15 years experience. She and her husband, Zeb, are very excited to announce that they are expecting their first child in December!! It may be a full house when they bring that baby home with their 2 dogs and 2 cats.



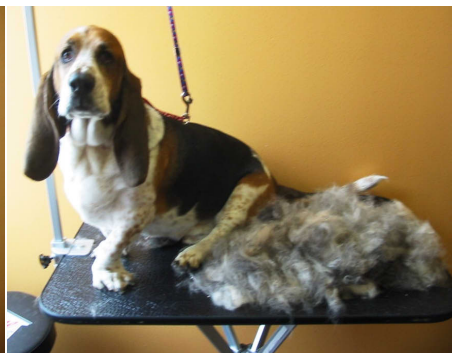
Question: My dog is shedding ALL OVER our house! What can I do?

Answer: Do I ever have the solution for you! Thanks to FURminator deshedding tools and products I can offer you the Low Shed Bath Package. This package is available for dogs of all sizes and ages and is a great solution for the seemingly endless shedding of Spring and Summer. If you are familiar with the FURminator brand deshedding tool, you already know that it works wonders on removing dead hair and loose undercoat. But what you may not know is that the FURminator brand also has available a complete line of deshedding products to make your life with your four-legged friend happier, healthier and less hairy! As the groomer, I offer the Low Shed Package and an upgrade to the Basic Bath Package in which I utilize a few of the FURminator products. First, the upgrade includes FURminator Low Shed Shampoo and DeShedding Solution which are used in combination during the bathing process to begin loosening hair right from the start. The products are massaged into the coat and allowed to absorb into the hair follicles all the while working their magic! The next step in the process, and perhaps the most crucial, is the blow-drying. A high-powered velocity dryer is used to literally blow water and loose hair out of the coat. Once dry, your pooch is brushed out using the FURminator deshedding tool until ALL loose hair is removed. The BEST part about the Low Shed Package, it gets out all of the hair without you having to worry about the messy cleanup!

Here are a few results we have seen using the Low Shed Bath Package!



Farley Dewitt



Flash Sorensen



Wrigley Sorensen

Question: We like to leave our dog's hair longer in between each haircut but it gets so matted and tangled. What kind of brushes should I be using?

Answer: There are two basic brushes that should be used to brush your dog's hair; the slicker brush and a metal comb. First, the slicker brush is a wire pin brush available in many different sizes and bristle firmness. This brush is used first to essentially fluff your dog's coat while removing any small tangles and dirt from the hair. Next the metal comb is used to check for any tangles missed with the slicker brush. Metal is preferred because plastic can easily bend and skip over mats while metal will stay solid and firm. Brushing your dog, when leaving the hair longer than half an inch, should be done once a day to every few days depending on your dog's coat type and specific needs.

If you find mats that cannot be removed with a slicker brush and metal comb alone, we do offer a de-matting tool that can be used to break up the mat making it easier to remove with your brush and comb.

As always, I am available for any questions or help you may need when it comes to brushes, mats or grooming in general. My goal is to get your dog the haircut you desire and to help you maintain the length in-between grooming appointments.



Ask Audra...

This month's question is...

Question: My pet has bad breath. What should I be doing?

Answer: Bad breath in dogs and cats is often an indicator of dental disease. Other signs that there may be a dental issue include drooling, reduced appetite, inflamed gums, or broken teeth. Your pet's teeth and gums should be evaluated by your veterinarian to determine if a dental cleaning and/or extractions may be needed. Dental health is very important for our pets because the tartar and infected areas of the mouth contain bacteria that can get in the bloodstream and cause infection of the heart valves, kidney, and liver.

At your pet's dental appointment an at-home care plan can be discussed to control tartar build up. This includes regular toothbrushing with pet toothpaste, not your personal toothpaste. Toothpaste designed for people can be hard on your pet's stomach. Without toothbrushing, food particles and bacteria collect along the gumline forming plaque. As plaque hardens into tartar it causes inflammation to the gums known as gingivitis. Tartar also causes the gum to pull away from the tooth and create pockets where bacteria can grow causing bad breath, loose teeth, or abscesses. So please, if your pet develops bad breath, schedule a dental check up with your veterinarian.

Advanced Pet Care Clinic

Hours: Mon. 7:30 am - 5:30 pm
Tues. 7:30 am - 8:00 pm
Wed. 7:30 am - 5:30 pm
Thurs. 7:30 am - 5:30 pm
Fri. 7:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sat. 8:00am - 10:00 am

24 hour on call emergency.

(319) 277-7675

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