

**September/October 2011**

As the nights get colder and the days get shorter, it becomes more and more evident that Fall is upon us. We begin to count down the days to Christmas and scramble to start our holiday shopping and plan big gatherings with family and food. A plentiful Thanksgiving or Christmas feast tops the list of most people, as well as their pets! While it may be tempting to slip your furry friend a little of this or some of that, scrumptious morsels can wreak havoc on sensitive stomachs and cause chronic pancreatitis. If you just can't resist letting Fido enjoy the festivities, there are a few options that are occasion appropriate and won't cause tummy troubles.

Pumpkin can be given to both cats and dogs. Specifically, 100% pure pumpkin. Canned pie filling has too many additives and sugars and isn't as healthy for our critters. Pure pumpkin is packed full of fiber and small amounts can aid in the digestion process, as well as be given during bouts of diarrhea AND constipation. With cats, pumpkin can help with furballs and is a lot tastier than some other fiber sources. Too much pumpkin can plug your pet up so it's important to only give small amounts with their food. 1 tablespoon per 10 pounds of body weight is usually sufficient. Pure pumpkin does have a short shelf-life so to make it last longer, freeze it in an ice-cube tray for small treats!

# "De-Tails"



Pumpkin, cranberries, and bananas have many benefits for your pets.

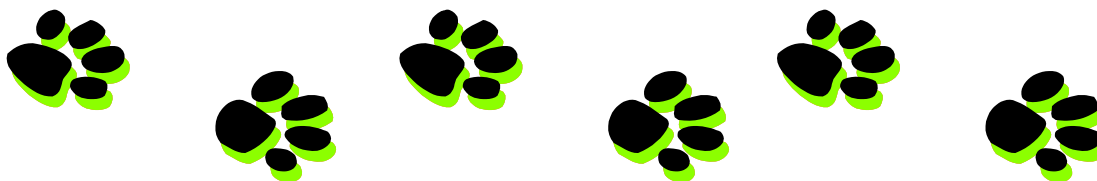
We know that cranberry for ourselves is beneficial, but it works the same way for our pets too. Cranberries work by acidifying urine and giving dogs and cats a more balanced pH to discourage the growth of bacteria in the urinary tract. Animals with chronic urinary tract infections may benefit from adding cranberry to their diets. Fresh or frozen cranberries can be stewed and added to the food or a cranberry supplement can be given. Overall, cranberries can help your pet's general health by balancing the acid-base in your pet's body.

Everyone knows bananas are the universal mood food. They contain fiber as well as 3 natural sugars that cause an instant, sustained boost for the body. They also contain tryptophan, which is a type of protein the body converts to serotonin causing a more relaxed, happier mood. Too much banana can cause constipation so make sure you only give small pieces as treats, not full meals. Slices can also be frozen for a fun twist!

Our product of the month is a perfect treat anytime and includes some of the superfoods above. **Fruitables** dog treats! They are 100% Natural and full of antioxidants, and are under **9 calories** per treat! They come in great combinations like pumpkin/banana, pumpkin/cranberry, pumpkin/blueberry and pumpkin/apple. **Num Num!!**



PumpkinBlueberry



As we head into colder months, be aware that some species of ticks are at their peak activity during this time, particularly, the tick that transmits Lyme disease. The life cycle of Ixodes ticks takes approximately 2 years to complete. In the spring of the first year, the eggs are laid. By Fall, they hatch and the larvae feeds on various small mammals it comes into contact with, subsequently becoming infected by Lyme disease if the host is already infected. Into spring/summer of year 2, the larvae become nymphs and require blood meals for growth. They feed on small mammals that brush past in vegetation. They can pass Lyme disease on even at this point.

Fall/Autumn is when they turn to adults and we begin to see them more frequently. Adult ticks feed and mate on passing deer and humans, infecting their hosts with Lyme disease.



Prevention is key when considering ways to combat ticks. We offer an array of topical products that control and prevent ticks as well as flea infestations during these cooler months. The newest of these is Certifect. Certifect is formulated to provide more aggressive tick control. It is the recommended product for dogs that hunt or spend time in tick infested areas.

All prevention products are recommended to be used year round to prevent any of those hearty ticks and fleas that find warm places to hide, from catching a ride on you or your pet. Lyme vaccination is available for dogs only and may be an option if your pet is at risk for infection. Be sure to remain diligent about keeping your pets parasite free!

## Is Your Pet's Breath Spooky?!

### Advanced Pet Care Clinic

Hours:

Mon. 7:30-5:30

Tues. 7:30-8:00

Wed. 7:30-5:30

Thurs. 7:30-5:30

Fri. 7:30-5:30

Sat. 8:00-10:00

### Warm Hearts Caring For Cold Noses!

Our groomers will be offering a toothbrushing special for the month of **October** only. Be sure to ask them about it when making your appointments.

Every groom booked during **October** will go home with complimentary seasonal bows or bandanas!!



Refer your friends and family and you will receive a \$5 credit to your account and they will get a FREE exam (\$35 value) with purchase of vaccines!

If you no longer wish to receive mailings from us please reply to this newsletter and put "remove" in the subject line.