

## Spring is coming!

And with the warmer weather come those nasty ticks! Ticks do not hibernate, they simply stop moving when they become too cold, at about 4°C. Once it warms up to this temperature, they start moving again, and they are hungry after a winter of not eating! Even in our chilly winters, by March or April we will start to see ticks up and about, rapidly starting another cycle of disease transmission.

With this warmer weather just around the corner, it is time to start thinking about tick preventatives.

**When to Use Tick Prevention:** April 1<sup>st</sup> (or sooner if spring comes early) through to November 1<sup>st</sup>

**When to Use Heartworm Prevention:** June 1<sup>st</sup> through to and including November 1<sup>st</sup>

**What to use:** Typically, a monthly chew is the way to go, but if this isn't for you, we'd be happy to talk about a topical preventative.

**What to do at the start of the Season:** A 4DX SNAP test! This is a quick and easy blood test we do in clinic (\$67.95+tax) to check for 4 different diseases to make sure that nothing snuck in over the



previous season. It tests for Heartworm Disease, Lyme Disease, Ehrlichia and Anaplasma. If your pet is positive for any of these diseases, then we will come up with a treatment plan specific to you and your pet.

**Why to use prevention:** Ticks are incredibly effective at transmitting diseases, such as Lyme Disease and Ehrlichia, a pair of nasty diseases that ticks can also transmit to people. Because these diseases can be hard to treat, it is important to try to prevent them. More on this below!  
*BUT: Don't worry about keeping track of all those details, we'll be reaching out to each of our*

*clients who have a doggy to help schedule what to do and when.*



### Upcoming Events!

1). On Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, we will be live streaming a talk for anyone curious about tick borne diseases in our pets, and a bit about the infamous Heartworm disease that can cause so much trouble for dogs in our neck of the woods. Check it out at @seasonsvetclinic!

2). **The Great TICK RACE!** Be the first person to bring a live tick into the clinic this spring and win an IHOP Gift Card!



### Incredible Cats!

Cats are one of the toughest animal species we treat! So, while you might think we've been ignoring our Felines, it is not so.

**Cats and Ticks:** Since cats are typically really good at grooming themselves, and since they don't usually frequent places that ticks like (such as woods, leaf litter and tall grass), they are not at particularly high risk for tick bites. But if you have a cat that does go to these types of places, then a tick preventative should be considered.

**Cats and Heartworm:** Since heartworm is transmitted by mosquitoes, and most of our cats are indoors, they are already at lower risk than our dogs. In addition, cats are harder to infect with Heartworm than dogs. So if your cat is indoors, then a heartworm preventative is not essential. But if your feline friend enjoys the great outdoors, then a heartworm preventative would be a good plan.

There are a few different options for tick and heartworm preventatives in cats that we would be happy to discuss with you so we can find exactly the right one for your situation.



Handsome Garry in the sun 😊

### Trivia Corner!

The first person to call in and correctly answer the following 3 questions wins a gift card to IHOP! The second person wins a gift card to Jugo Juice!

- 1). At what temperature do ticks start moving again?
- 2). What bacteria causes Lyme Disease?
- 3). What 4 diseases does the 4DX SNAP test look for?



### February Winners!

Congratulations to our February newsletter prize winners! We hope Bella's (top) owners and Cooper's (bottom) owners enjoy their treats to IHop and Jugo Juice!

