



Did you know?

1. Cats can be infected with heartworms, even if they live indoors.
2. There is no approved treatment for heartworms in cats and cats rarely show symptoms until it's too late.
3. Diagnosing heartworms in cats is vary challenging
4. Revolution protects cats from heartworms, as well as, hookworms, roundworms, ear mites and fleas.

The scoop on poop!

When coming in for an appointment be sure it bring a stool sample with you. We prefer it to be as fresh as possible, at least from the same day. It only needs to be the size of a small tootsie role. Usually a stool sample is needed when your pet is having diarrhea, annual exams, or when intestinal parasites are suspected. You can always ask a receptionist if a stool sample will be needed when scheduling your pet's appointment.

The poo factor.

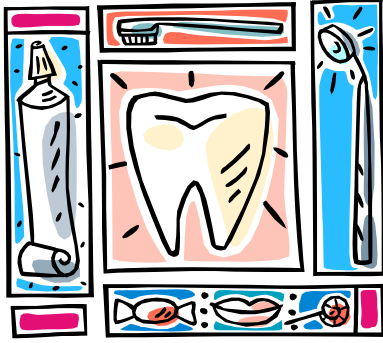
You may think that carrying your pets stool is less than ideal, but in fact when obtaining a sample in the office we usually come up with an inadequate amount, not to mention it is quite uncomfortable for your pet.

Cats and Their Litter Boxes

Cats and kittens are picky little critters, unlike dogs; they don't just sniff the first tree and just "go". They need specific things to be happy with their litter box; here are a few helpful suggestions when choosing your cat or kittens litter box.

1. Place litter box in a low traffic area, everyone likes a little privacy, especially cats!
2. Do not place food or water in the same area as your cats litter box.
3. Multi cat household should have the same amount of litter boxes as there are cats plus one, they should be placed in different locations in the house.
4. Use caution with litter boxes with lids:
 - * Covers hold in odor and cats are very particular about having stinky litter boxes
 - * Covered litter boxes only have one exit, if another cat or dog traps a cat in a covered litter box, he will be less likely to use that litter box in the future
5. Use nonscented clumping cat litter, this is usually a cat's first choice.
6. Scoop litter boxes daily and change litter weekly.
7. Clean your cats litter box thoroughly at least once monthly with dish soap, do not use bleach or any harsh cleaners, they leave strong odors and may detour a cat from its litter box.
8. Try not to change the brand or texture of your cats litter, they are VERY picky.

If you have questions about your cat and her litter box please call one of our facilities for further information.



You're Pets Oral Health

Our dogs and cats need help to have happy and healthy teeth. There are many different ways that we as pet owners can keep our pets mouths healthy. Of course, brushing your pet's teeth is the first recommendation; you should brush your pet's teeth at least twice weekly. Start early, they are more likely to tolerate you brushing their teeth if we start as puppies or kittens. Make it fun, pet toothpaste come in many different flavors pick you pets favorite. If your dog or cat does not tolerate you brushing his teeth, don't worry because you do have other options. There are many different treats that help fight dental tartar, these treats can be found at any one of our facilities, ask one of our receptionists or technicians for help to find a dental treat for your pet. Feeding your pet a dry diet can also help limit tartar build up on your pet's teeth; there are also prescription diets especially made for teeth.

Prevention helps to limit plaque and tartar build up, but at least once a year your pet should have his or her teeth cleaned professionally.



Pet Food Recall

Please continue to feed your current pet food. As long as your pet is not exhibiting any symptoms such as, vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, or increased thirst, or increased urine output, you can still feed your pet its current diet. Be sure to stay updated as information changes daily. Information is also available at one of our three clinics.

We do not recommend the practice of home cooked meals for dogs or cats. Processed cat and dog foods remain the safest and most balanced diets available cats and dogs.

Menu foods produces only foil pouches and canned foods, however pet food manufactures such as Hills, Sunshine Mills, Royal Canine, Purina, ext, distributors of biscuits and dry foods, were also effect by the recall. Some of these manufactures only recalled certain diets for precautionary reasons, because some these products contained either wheat gluten, rice protein or corn gluten that may or may not have been contaminated with melamine.

Menu Foods has engaged a professional firm to manage your questions and is currently handling calls from concerned pet owners who feel that Menu Foods is responsible for their financial set back. Specific direction can be received when Menu Foods is contacted. In addition Hill's Pet Foods is paying \$100 towards laboratory testing for any patient on their diet Feline m/d.

Questions about the Pet Food Recall?

www.menufoods.com

[1.866.895.2708](tel:18668952708)

Meet The Staff!

Pam

Pam is a Certified Veterinary Technician who has been working at Animal Care Center for about 5 ½ years. She has been in the veterinary field for 27 years, 21 of those years were spent with a board certified veterinary ophthalmologist. So we consider Pam our eye technician, she has seen it all.

Pam lives with her wonderful husband of 25 years, and many 3 and 4 legged pets. She is involved in pet therapy every Thursday for the past 18 years at Tampa General Hospital and Mofitt Cancer Center. In her spare time, what she has of it, she enjoys photography and running marathons.



Judy

Judy has been working at Animal Care Center for 5 years as a receptionist. She lives with her extended family, three Paso Fino horses, three rat terriers, and one frisky barn cat. Not to mention her loving husband and an 18-year-old daughter who is also a receptionist at Animal Care Center. Judy as enjoys weekend getaways to north Florida, with her entire family, pets and all. As if this mother and wife has enough to do she also sell Mary Kay cosmetics



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