



Mountainview Animal Hospital

Dr. Stephanie Ewing BSc., DVM

Our Team is Growing

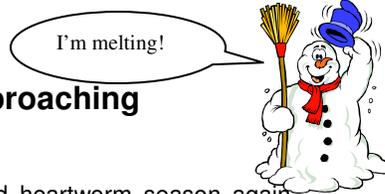
Last year some of you may have met Sabrina Fiorenza, a Veterinary Technician student who worked for us through the summer. This winter she has been doing her co-op requirements with us and will be graduating in the spring. Sabrina has just accepted a full time position here as our second veterinary technician. She will join a qualified and dedicated team, whose goal is to provide you and your pets with the care and attention we know you are looking for.

Microchip Madness

Having your pet properly identified is the only way to ensure that he or she never gets lost. Every year the shelter euthanizes thousands of pets whose owners cannot be located and an important family bond is lost. One of the most reliable and safe methods of permanently identifying your pet is through microchipping. Most people whose pets have been microchipped will agree that it gives them peace of mind.

Spring Is Fast Approaching (we hope!)

That means it is flea and heartworm season again. We know how important your pets are to you and how you want to make sure you do what is best for them. By testing your dogs regularly and stating them on their monthly heartworm prevention, you can feel confident that they are protected against this potentially fatal disease.



Lately however, there has been some confusion with one of the microchip data base companies – PetNet. As of January 1st, 2003 those animals microchipped with a PetNet chip will be required to pay an annual licensing fee to maintain their pet on the database. BEWARE, animals microchipped prior to that date are “grand-fathered” into the system and you are not required to pay that fee. For those of you who may have received an invoice from PetNet and have paid it, you can request a refund. Rest assured that pets microchipped with a PetNet chip are still protected.

As a result of the confusion that this annual fee has created, we at Mountainview Animal Hospital will no longer use the PetNet chip. Should any of our clients decide to use this wonderful technology to protect their pets from becoming lost, an annual fee will not apply.

Cats too need extra protection in the summer months. Those pesky fleas can cause as much irritation to cats as they do to dogs. Those of you who have had fleas in the past know how difficult it is to get rid of them; prevention of flea infestations is much easier, cost effective and safe.



Life According To Nike – A Cat’s Creation Story

- On the first day of creation, God created the cat.
- On the second day of creation, God created human to serve the cat.
- On the third day, God created all the animals of the earth to serve as potential food for the cat.
- On the fourth day, God created honest toil so that humans could labor for the good of the cat.
- On the fifth day, God created the sparkle ball so that the cat might or might not play with it.
- On the sixth day, God created veterinary science to keep the cat healthy.
- On the seventh day, God tried to rest but had to scoop the litter box.



Leptospirosis

Leptospirosis is a serious and sometimes fatal bacterial disease that can afflict dogs and humans. Dogs most commonly become infected by drinking from rivers, streams, puddles or ponds that have become contaminated by the urine of other infected animal (raccoons, rats and skunks). The sharp increase in the prevalence of the disease may be associated with the growing urban wildlife population and warmer fall temperatures. This bacteria tends to attack the liver and kidneys causing a variety of symptoms including fever, nausea, lethargy, abdominal pain and increased urination. Currently diagnosis can be difficult. Treatment involves early detection, hospitalization and antibiotic therapy.

Fortunately, there are now new vaccines available. Although these newer vaccines are considered safe, some reactions have been seen. The current recommendation in regard to disease prevention is to selectively vaccinate those dogs considered at risk of exposure.

If your dog has not been vaccinated for Leptospirosis in the past and you believe he or she is at risk of exposure, please call us to schedule an appointment.



Does Your Pet Need A New Hair Do?

Now that the temperature should start to rise your pets' fur will start to fall. A shedding winter coat not only ends up all over your carpets and furniture but can also cause skin problems if the dead under coat is not brushed away. A healthy, well maintained coat not only keeps our pets warm in the winter, but also insulates them from the heat in the summer. For those of you who do not have the time to dedicate to hours of brushing and bathing our groomer, Debbie Tatham, can help. Debbie is available for grooming appointments week days from Monday to Friday. Please note that Debbie will be on holidays from May 2nd to the 17th so book early for your pets' spring clean up.



Client Appreciation Day!

Sunday April 13th, 2003

from

1 pm to 4 pm

To show our appreciation to our wonderful clients, we are having an Open House. Last year's open house was a great success, many of you came out to tour the hospital, meet our staff, enjoy the barbeque and win some prizes. We hope to see many of you again this year. Everyone is welcome to attend, including your furry friends. Weather permitting we will be having a barbeque. So, come join us for an exciting and educational day.

Representatives from

**Heartgard
And
Advantage**

will be available to answer any questions regarding heartworm and flea prevention

**Food
Games
Prizes**

Grooming Demonstration
From
Debbie Tatham

Mark your calendars !!!!!!!

