

Mountainview Animal Hospital

SPRING NEWSLETTER

The Bottom Line

Let's add to this list the moment an old fearful dog finally accepts you as a friend. That moment when they stop growling and biting and lean into you with acceptance, there's nothing more heart warming and gratifying.

That's not to suggest that this job is easy, there are many difficult things, the goodbyes are the hardest. What makes those times a little bit easier, is seeing a family come back with a new friend. It means that perhaps we added a little bit of grace to their final moments together. Knowing that, helps patch the wound.

LET'S NOT FORGET ABOUT OUR CATS

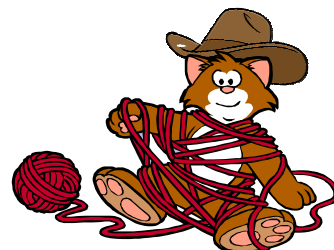
While heartworm disease is uncommon in cats in Canada, fleas and ticks certainly don't hesitate to ambush our feline friends. Cats that go outside need protection too. Careful though, many of the products sold for dogs are toxic to cats. Ask us about the right protection against fleas, ticks and intestinal parasites.

MY FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT BEING A VETERINARIAN

The smell of a puppy's breath, a little skunky but so delightful
 The challenge of solving a case and the pleasure of seeing a pet recover
 The excitement of pet and family greeting each other after a hospital stay
 The moment when a sick pet starts to eat again
 The grumbly sound a cranky cat makes when it eats
 A good wet kiss from a dog
 The gentle dry kiss from a cat
 Head bumps from a cat, such a privilege
 All the patterns a dog's tail can make when it wags and how dogs with short tails just wag their whole bums instead
 The relationships we get to make with so many people
 Learning something new every single day, and knowing that will never change
 The way skin heals again after a bite or scratch

ROOTIN TOOTIN TIME WITH TUX

My favourite things about being a cat:
 Being the boss
 Having people cater to me
 Spa days, but not the nails, I hate it when they trim my nails
 Never having to work. Let's face it, the most strenuous thing I have to do in a day is clean my own bum.
 How privileged people feel, when I'm only a little nice to them
 How stealth cats are
 Looking beautiful no matter how old I'll get
 Urinating anywhere I please



PARASITE SEASON

Spring is almost here, Yee-Haw! But that also means so is the return of all those gosh darn parasites. While it should be easy to deal with, each dastardly critter has its own lifecycle, strategy of attack and they each are managed differently. The next few pages are designed to help figure them out.

- Who are these criminals?: Wanted for the crime of causing disease in our pets
- When do we need to take a stand?: Calendar of parasites
- Who needs a blood test and how do we get it done?: Such an important part of prevention is testing. But some new puppies don't need a test this year. This flow chart will help you know what to do: Does my dog need a heartworm (4Dx) blood test?

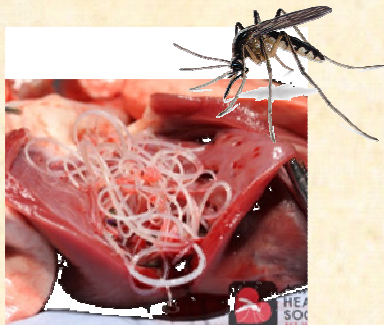
Still have questions? Please don't hesitate to call us.

W A N T E D !



FOR THE CRIME OF CAUSING DISEASE IN OUR PETS

THE PARASITE GANG



★ HEARTWORM THE KILLER ★

The Heartworm is a long slender worm growing to almost a foot long. This desperado hides out in the dog's heart and lungs. It is guilty of damaging the heart, the lungs, the liver and murder. It has been stopping hearts for decades. The sinister heartworm does not work alone, it uses the mosquito to travel from dog to dog. When hunting down the Heartworm a blood test is required. If you find Heartworm, it cannot be approached alone. Many harsh and expensive medications, and a lot of veterinary care will be needed to take it down. Beware, the battle to kill Heartworm can be deadly. The best way to manage the Heartworm is to prevent it. Annual blood testing and monthly medication just might do it. The best time to hunt Heartworm is in the spring, and prevention is throughout the summer from June 1st to November.

For more information:
www.heartwormsociety.org



★ THE LYME SLINGING TICK ★

The dastardly tick starts as small as a speck of dust and grows as it feeds off its victim's blood. Once it's done, it can leave behind a posse of bacteria that causes Lyme disease. This bushwhacker likes to hide in tall grass and the leafy material under trees, just waiting to ambush innocent folks and their pets. While it does not like a deep freeze, the tick will start invading our spaces as soon as the temperature reaches 0°C. Look for this critter around the ears, neck, groin and armpits of your pets. To stamp out this varmint, our dogs and cats need tick stomping medication from March to December. Fortunately, Lyme disease can be detected with the same blood test that detects its deadly parasite gang partner Heartworm. Warning, some of the medications available to our dogs can be toxic to cats so best to consult your town's veterinarian.

For more info on Ticks:
ticktalkcanada.com and
mountainviewanimalhospital.ca/
newsletter, spring 2020



★ FLEA THE CAUSER OF ITCH ★

The flea is one of the founding members of the Parasite Gang. This scoundrel has been making our pets itch for eons. One female flea can lay thousands of eggs, and the resultant larva live in your sofa, carpets and beds. Once they have invaded your homestead, they can take months to drive out. The Flea is in cahoots with the Tapeworm, it often comes along for the ride. The tapeworm hunkers down in the intestinal tract and is known for robbing our pets of precious nutrients. Best not to welcome these outlaws into town to start with. Some of the medications that prevent the rest of this gang from establishing a settlement in your pet will also deter the Flea. Yee-haw. Warning, some of the medications available to our dogs can be toxic to cats so best to consult your town's veterinarian.

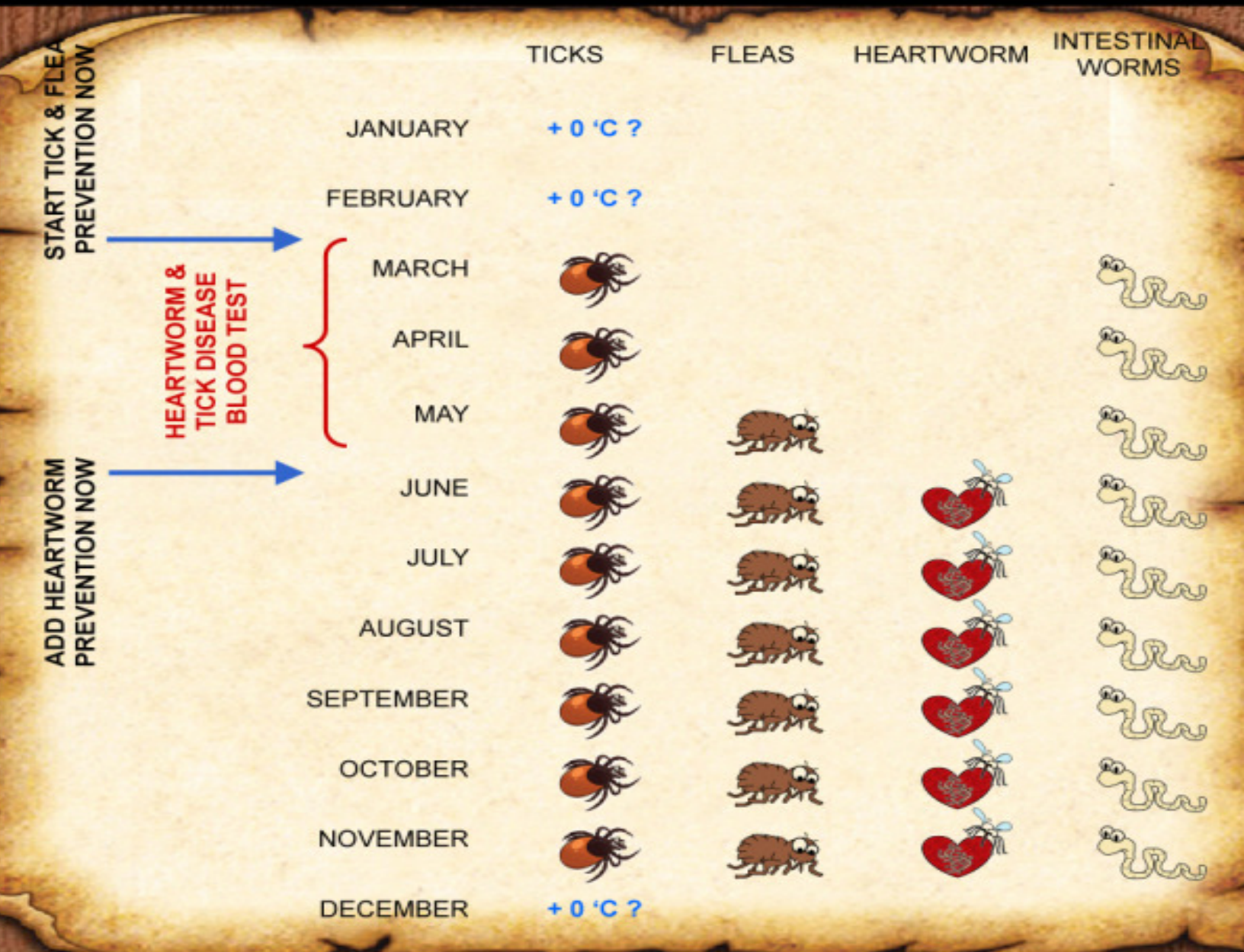
For more information on the Flea:
mountainviewanimalhospital.ca/
library

REWARD TO THOSE WHO TACKLE THESE PESKY VARMINTS

A HAPPY AND HEALTHY FURRY COMPANION



THE VARMINTS ARE BACK & THEY'RE HUNGRY

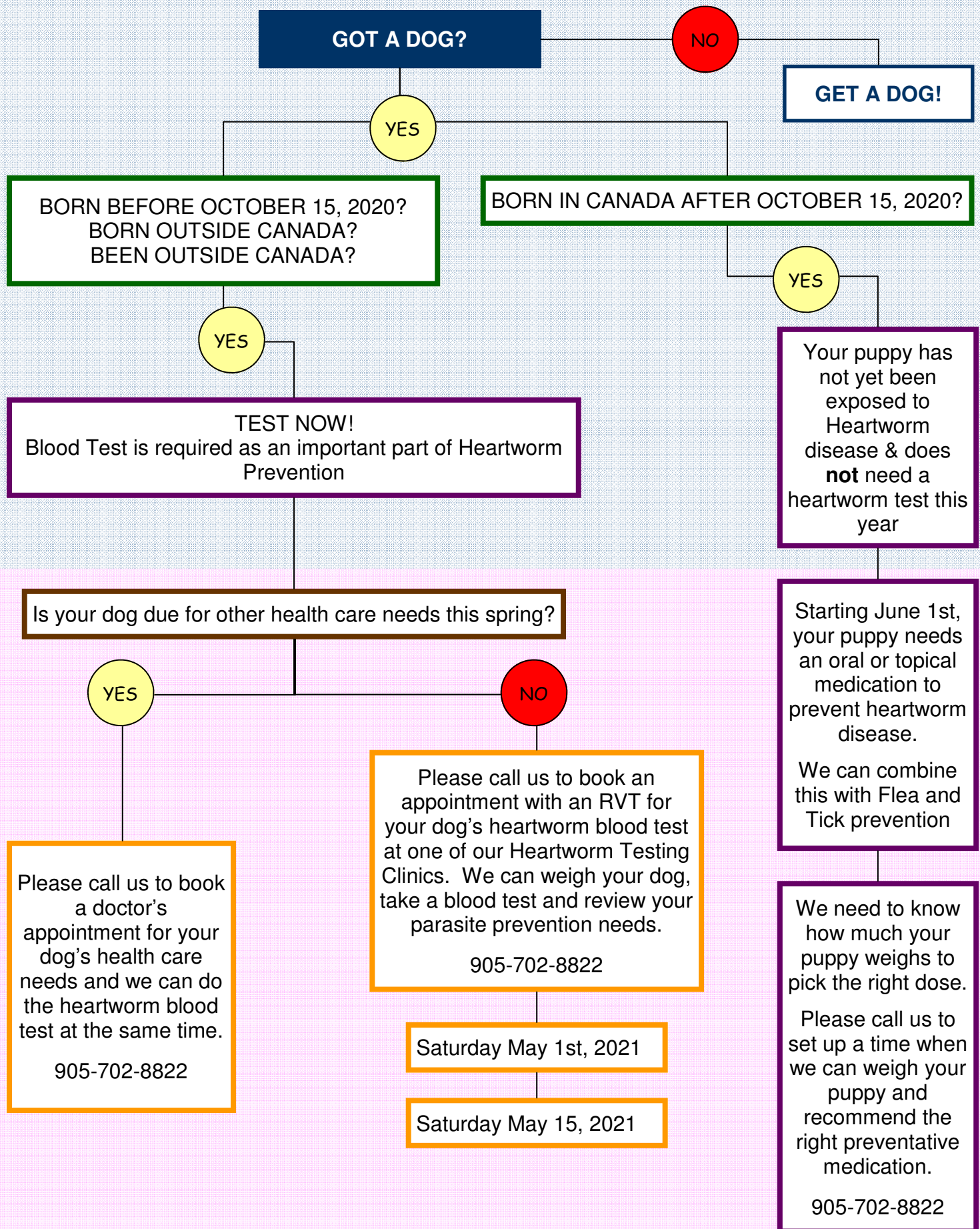


PREVENTION IS EASIER THAN THE CURE

DOES MY DOG NEED A HEARTWORM (4Dx) TEST?

WHO NEEDS A BLOOD TEST?

HOW DO I GET STARTED?



WE CAN HELP WITH THE RIGHT PLAN!