



Mountainview Animal Hospital

Dr. Stephanie Ewing BSc., DVM and Associates

The Bottom Line

Every year we see more and more ticks.

The tick of most concern in this area is the Deer tick, also called Black Legged Tick or Ixodes scapularis.

This is the tick that carries Lyme Disease, Anaplasma and Ehrlichia.

Did you know that the Brown Dog Tick, also found in this area, can reproduce in your home. The thought makes me cringe!



Unfed



Day 1 ½



Day 2



Day 3



Day 4



Day 7

TICKS IN THE WINTER? SERIOUSLY?

Seriously! I hate to say it, but we are seeing ticks even in January and February.

When I first graduated, all those many, many years ago, I barely knew what a tick was. I was taught it was a creepy little disease carrying parasite that lived in far away lands where it is warm and sunny all the time. The price some have to pay for living in a nicer climate, I told myself. Did that sound jealous? Not that our cold Canadian winters protected us completely from parasites, but we at least had a break for the winter and the early spring months. Not anymore! Our winters have been milder overall and every month we seem to get spurts of warmer, almost spring like weather. And while we might enjoy the warm breaks, so do the parasites living among us.

So what parasites should we be worried about in the winter months?

Ticks

Ticks are actively seeking to feed anytime the temperature warms to above 0 degrees Celsius. So any dogs, cats or people within their reach potentially become breakfast, lunch or dinner.

Remember where the ticks are found, in the grass, bushes, trees and leaves. If your dog or cat ventures out, even in the winter, you should strongly consider year round tick prevention.

Intestinal parasites

Roundworm and hookworm eggs are very resistant to freezing; they can survive temperatures of -20°C for many weeks. Wow!

Both the Center for Disease Control and the Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPC) in the USA recommend that all pets receive year-round broad-spectrum parasite control against intestinal parasites. In Canada, the risk of intestinal parasite transmission is somewhat lower than in the warmer areas of the USA. So here, the best approach to intestinal parasite control is risk based. Ask yourself this:

- **Pet risk:** Does my dog spend time off leash? Does my dog lick the grass or eat poop when out on a walk? Does my dog eat a raw meat diet? Is my dog frequently exposed to heavily contaminated environments like dog parks? Does my cat go outside? Does my cat hunt?
- **Household risk:** Is my dog a service animal? Does my dog or cat have contact with young children under the age of 3, pregnant women, or immunocompromised people?

The Bottom Line

Stoop & Scoop the Poop is not just about cleaning up the mess, it's about parasite prevention. From an infected dog or cat, microscopic eggs are passed out in the poop. These eggs can survive in the environment long after the poop is broken down and gone. You many never know how contaminated your yard or favourite park is. Cleaning up after your dog helps prevent the spread.

Yes to any of these questions = high risk pet and household. We recommend:

- High risk households need to be concerned about parasitic zoonoses (the spread of disease from animals to humans).
- These dogs and cats need more frequent fecal testing and deworming, a minimum of 4 times per year
- Better yet, they should remain on tick and parasite prevention year round.

Low risk pets and low risk households ≠ no risk. These pets should still:

- Get tested (poop sample) and treated yearly
- It is also appropriate to treat only if eggs are detected on fecal testing, particularly if using the new antigen and PCR tests, which have high sensitivity.

Again, if your dog or cat ventures out, and falls into the higher risk lifestyle, or there are vulnerable people in the house, then we recommend year round intestinal worm prevention on top of the year round tick prevention.

Unsure about what to do? Just call us & we can help you choose the right plan to keep your pet & family bug free and safe this winter.

SAVE TIME, SHOP ONLINE, USE MyVETstore

Did you know that you can shop for your pet's food, litter, treats, toys and more through our webstore? You order online from the comfort of your home, you can choose to pick up your order at the clinic, or you can have your order delivered straight to your house. How easy is that!

You can even order some of your pet's medications through myVETstore. The medications will still have to be pre-approved by a veterinarian and they can only be picked up at the hospital, they will not be delivered to your home.....still safety first! But now you can put the request through online at any time, from anywhere. And for some medications, that your pet is taking long-term, several prescriptions can be pre-approved and set to auto-order, so you never forget, and don't run out.



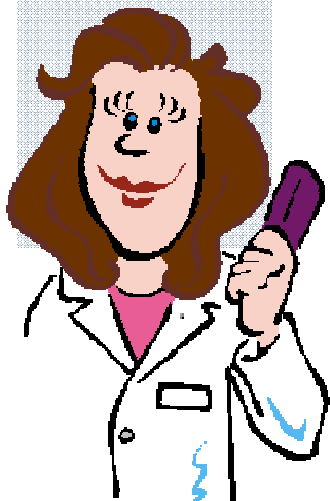
**Hey mom,
I need more
food & treats.
And maybe that new
toy I was admiring.
Pretty
Please!**

The Auto-Order feature is fabulous. You can set the system to automatically notify you to reorder food, litter, treats and certain medications at preset intervals. If you accept the reminder, your item is automatically ordered and delivered to either your home, business, cottage or to our hospital, depending on your presets. And, for those pets eating any of the Royal Canin, Hills Science Diet or Purina ProPlan Veterinary Diets, auto-ordered food is discounted by 5%.

We also love the support we can provide for you through myVETstore. While most items are open to shop for any of our clients, some of the items on the store have been restricted for approval first. This is done so we can make sure the product (usually medications and supplements) are safe and not contra-indicated for pets with pre-existing conditions. This is just one more way we try to look out for the wellbeing of your pets.

It is Sunday night at 6:43 pm and I just finished ordering my cat food and all my pet's Christmas presents through myVETstore.

It was so easy. Let's go over how it's done.



Save Time, Order Online!



Why Order From Our WebStore?

- Available 24/7
- **Home delivery available**
- **SAVE** with AutoOrders
- Over **3,500 products** to choose from!
Browse through diets, treats, toys,
litter, grooming products and more!

Step 1 - Visit our online store at www.myVETstore.ca/mountainview and request to be registered. You'll soon be on your way to spoiling your pet!

Step 2 - Once you receive your welcome email, complete the registration process by creating your password.

Step 3 - Login to www.myVETstore.ca/mountainview using your email and password and start shopping!

Done! - It's that simple

OR

Call the Hospital - One of our receptionists will be happy to help you with your registration and order set up. 905-702-8822

Register Today!

**Be assured that your information will be kept confidential
and will not be sold or shared with anyone.**

***The Bottom
Line***



***HOLIDAY
HOURS***

*Sunday
December 24th
Christmas Eve
Closed*

*Monday
December 25th
Christmas Day
Closed*

*Tuesday
December 26th
Boxing Day
Closed*

*Sunday
December 31st
New Years Eve
Closed*

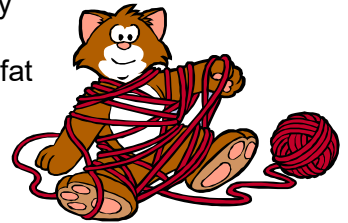
*Monday
January 1st
New Years Day
Closed*



TIME WITH TUX

Most of you might not know that Dr. Ewing's dog Coal died this past January. I liked that dog, he was quiet, gentle, and never tried to sniff my bum. I am sad that he is gone. Not as sad as Dr. Ewing, good lord that woman can cry when you mention his name...so shhh. Because Dr. Ewing was so sad, we all talked her into getting a new puppy. And by we, I mean they, the humans that work here; I thought it was a bad idea. And as usual, I was right!

I don't like this puppy. Her name is Reese. She is rude, she sniffs my bum, steals my food and sometimes even eats my poop....so gross. She sneaks up on me, bounces on me and squishes me with her big fat paws. The humans all laugh and say "aw, she is trying to play with Tux"; it's not funny. And her teeth are sharp! And she is loud; some dumb-dumb here keeps buying her toys with squeakers. What's a cat gotta do to get a nap around here?



WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY OVER THE HOLIDAYS

Unless otherwise specified here, Mountainview Animal Hospital will be open during its regular office hours. Animals in the hospital over the holidays will receive the same great care and attention as always. For those patients requiring emergency care over Christmas and New Years:

- Emergency Veterinary Clinic on Hwy 10: call ahead at 905-495-9907. The Emergency Veterinary Clinic is located in Brampton on the south east corner of Highway 10 and Wexford Rd, just one block north of Bovaird (Highway 7).
- North Town Veterinary Hospital: call ahead at 905-451-2000. Located in Brampton on the south east corner of Highway 10 and Williams Pkwy.
- Mississauga Oakville Veterinary Emergency and Referral Hospital: call ahead at 905-829-9444. Located on Bristol Circle off Winston Churchill Road, south of Dundas in Mississauga

*From all of us at Mountainview Animal
Hospital,
we wish all of you
A Very Merry Christmas,
A Joyous Holiday Season
and
A Happy New Year*

