Did You Know?

- When pets teeth are properly cared for it may add 3 to 5 years to their life (September Prevention Magazine).
- Laser Therapy at Suburban can be used to treat arthritic conditions, wounds and hot spots, plus give post surgical pain relief and speed healing.
- You can receive a \$10 credit to your account by referring a friend and their pet as a new client to Suburban Animal Clinic. We thank you for your support.
- Positive reviews of Suburban Animal Clinic are always welcome on Goggle, City Search, YP.com, Yahoo and Angies List. People like to know why you come to us!





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Suburban Animal Clinic

Fall 2011



Pet Pause

Suburban Animal Clinic

Your Pet's Health

- Is Your Pet Still Itchy?
- Trends in Pet Health
- Lumps and Bumps

News For You

- Did You Know?
- What's News at Suburban?
- NEW! Suburbananimalclinic.com

Feline Corner

- Suburban is Feline Friendly
- Feline Chronic Kidney Disease



Is Your Pet Still Itchy?

In the late summer and fall many pets are still biting, scratching or chewing on themselves. Although fleas reach their peak this time of year and are notorious for causing itchy pets, other problems can cause intense scratching. Seasonal allergies, skin infection, mange (mites), food allergy, autoimmune skin disease, and fleabite sensitivity can all cause your pet to have uncomfortable skin problems.

Suburban Animal Clinic can help! The best way to treat an itchy pet is to have an accurate diagnosis. Skin tests are often required to determine the cause of problems. Gentle medicated shampoos and sprays can be prescribed to give your pet relief. Additional medications may be necessary for skin infections (antibiotics), or to control skin irritation (corticosteroids, antihistamines, Atopica).

If your pet is suffering this time of year from fleas or itching from some unknown cause, please call us at 614-276-5479 to schedule an appointment to give your pet relief!

SuburbanAnimalClinic.com

Check out our updated website. It's loaded with new information, a virtual tour, information about our services, clinic forms and pet photos. You can also link to our Online Store and request an appointment via Pet Portals. Check out our Facebook page and new Blog with clinic updates. Send your friends to our website to see why Suburban Animal Clinic is "Where Caring People Care For Pets."

Trends In Pet Health

A recent Pet Health Study showed increases in diabetes, dental disease, fleas and other common health problems that can be prevented with regular veterinary care. The 5 year study found a 16 percent increase in feline diabetes for example.

Dental disease topped the list of most common medical conditions for dogs and cats. In fact, 78 percent of dogs and 68 percent of cats over the age of 3 years present with some form of dental disease. The study noted a rise in popularity of small breed dogs which are more prone to periodontal disease, diabetes mellitus, and knee injuries. Large breed dogs are more predisposed to arthritis, bloat and hip dysplasia.

Heartworm disease and flea infestation should be on the decline, but the study shows these problems are increasing because many pet owners are not using preventatives correctly or consistently.

Ear disease is ranked as the second most common disease of dogs and cats, increasing from 10 to 15 percent. Certain breeds are predisposed to ear infections and many times allergies are to blame for ear problems.

The bottom line is...regular veterinary exams and testing can detect pet health problems in early stages. Don't be tempted to self diagnose or use last years medication and certainly never use human medications on your pet. Your friends at Suburban Animal Clinic are here to keep your pet friends happy and healthy.



Beware of Lumps and Bumps

Finding a lump or bump on your pet can be scary. Any lump or bump should be brought to our attention to determine what it is and what if any treatment is necessary. Young pets can have them, but they are more common on middle age and older pets.

Generally we will perform a fine needle biopsy to obtain some material, place it on a slide and have it microscopically evaluated to try to determine what it is. Most often surgical removal of the mass under anesthesia is necessary to have it evaluated by a veterinary histopathologist.

Lipomas (fatty tumors) are common lumps. Lipomas are benign and while they can be invasive, they are usually found under the skin, commonly in older dogs. Lumps that appear to be fast growing, painful, irregular in shape, or are bleeding need to be evaluated immediately.

Histocytomas are benign, raised red tumors usually found in younger dogs. Other common benign or non-cancerous growths include cysts, warts, perianal adenomas, hematomas and abscesses.

Malignant skin growths include mast cell tumors, fibrosarcomas, melanomas, and squamous cell carcinomas. A rare tumor in cats can be an injection site sarcoma, which is extremely malignant. If a tumor is malignant we will determine if it has spread to other parts of the body by aspirating lymph nodes, taking chest x-rays or sometimes an ultrasound of the abdomen. We may refer you to a veterinary oncologist for further evaluation and treatment.

Bring to our attention any new lumps or bumps on your pet and any change in old ones. We will evaluate them and make our best recommendations for treatment. Remember, early detection almost always yields more successful results when treating any medical condition.

Contacts for you:

Web: www.SuburbanAnimalClinic.com
E-mail: Info@SuburbanAnimalClinic.com
Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 7am-6pm and
Sat., 7am-1pm

Phone: (614) 276-5479

In case of Emergency (24/7)

MedVet (614) 846-5800 Capital Veterinary Referral and Emergency Center (614)870-0480

What's News at Suburban

- Dr. Missy Shardy gave birth to a baby girl, Josie Mae Shardy on June 15th. Mom and family are all doing well. Dr. Shardy is expected back from maternity leave on September 9th. A big thanks to Dr. Shannon Cunningham for filling in while Dr. Shardy was off.
- Congrats to Vet Tech Jenny Moore who was married to Erik Smith on July 23rd. We wish you a long and happy life together!
- Suburban Animal Clinic is the top rated Columbus Veterinary Clinic on <u>Angies List!</u> We appreciate all of your positive reviews and always look forward to more.
- Our summer puppy class graduated in July! "Kamea" and "Mukki" Williams and "Otis" Baker all enjoyed the learning experience along with their owners. Call us to find out about the next puppy class ask for Krista or Dawn.
- Suburban has instituted a new <u>multipet discount</u>. When you bring in 2 or more pets on the same visit you save \$10 off the exam fee of the 2nd additional pet. Time to save, make one trip in!

Suburban Is Feline Friendly!

- 1. We have developed a new Feline History Form for you to fill out during your cat's annual examination appointment. Questions concerning litter box habits, eating and drinking, and inside/outside exposure among others, helps us to determine vaccine protocols and evaluate changes in your cat's health.
- 2. We recommend soft sided cat carriers. These carriers are shaped like duffle bags, zip at the end and the top. They are less traumatic to load and unload a cat. They are available at most pet stores and online at Petedge.com.
- 3. Do you know about Feliway, the synthetic feline pheromone? This product calms cats that are stressed. Go to Feliway.com to learn more. You can print off a \$10 Feliway Rebate and purchase Feliway at Suburban Animal Clinic.

Feline Chronic Kidney Disease

Kidney disease is most common in older cats, but often begins in middle age. We can frequently diagnose kidney disease with blood and urine tests before any signs occur and make treatment recommendations based on those reports.

Signs may include mild changes in behavior, excessive thirst and more clumps of urine in the litter box, decreased appetite, weight loss, decreased muscle mass, and nausea. Twice yearly examinations of cats over 7 years of age and periodic laboratory testing will help to ensure early detection and timely treatment of feline kidney disease. Prescription Diets (Hill's k/d), medications and fluid therapy can help slow the progression of this disease and provide a good quality of life for your feline friend.





Check out Suburban Animal
Clinic
on Facebook for updates,
information and timely
announcements!