

## *Internet Pharmacies*

The Food and Drug Administration continually warns the public about the possible dangers of buying medications online. This also applies to pet medications. Buying medications online *can* be safe and convenient. It can also put you or your pet's health at risk. Any pet products purchased through an internet company renders the guarantee null and void.

One such case happened to a veterinary client in the Lansing area. The client bought heartworm prevention from an internet pharmacy. They gave the medication as it was prescribed by the veterinarian. After a year, the dog went to the veterinarian for its annual exam and heartworm test, the test came back heartworm positive. Upon further research, the heartworm preventative they bought online was a fraudulent product made in China. Because the product was bought online, it was not guaranteed. This client had to pay the \$800-\$1000 cost of heartworm treatment.

Fraudulent sellers can have sophisticated Web sites that look legitimate. Consumers must take the time to carefully investigate any online drug provider before placing an order. To protect your pet from this unfortunate circumstance, the best option is to buy direct from your veterinarian, and with the manufacturer's rebate, your cost is comparable to online prices.

If purchased through a veterinarian, the heartworm preventatives we carry are guaranteed by the company. That means if your dog or cat develops any of the parasites its labeled to prevent, the company will treat your pet at no cost to you. The products we carry for dogs are Sentinel, Interceptor, Comfortis and Vectra 3D. For cats, we have Revolution and Interceptor.

## *Premier Pet Products*

We are very excited to announce we are carrying a new line of pet products. These products are made by Premier. We now have a unique line of toys, collars and harnesses that have been developed to strengthen the human-animal bond.

Premier is devoted to providing innovative, humane, and unique products. From behavior tools to gorgeous apparel, from fun toys to delicious treats, Premier has you and your pet's best interests at heart.

We have behavior modification toys, stuffing free squeak toys, cat toys and treat dispensing chew toys. We can also special order products for birds and other exotic pets. Stop by to see our new products or check out our catalog!

If your dog pulls on your daily walks, come in and see our new Gentle Leaders and Easy Walk Harnesses. Bring your dog in and we'll help you measure him for the correct fit! They also have a unique cat harness and leash.

Stop by to take a look at our new Premier Pet Product line and see if there is something you can take home to your best friend.

## **Reminder for Photos**

Please bring in a copy of your pet's photos for our digital photo frame!

## *Pet Celebration Day*

In honor of pets, and what they mean to us, Caring Animal Hospital is going to hold a third annual Pet Celebration Day on **Wednesday, June 1st from 4-7pm**. We are planning on Obedience demonstrations, Dental Health and Tooth Brushing seminars and an adopt-a-thon from Capital Area Humane Society. Hot dogs and chips will be available, so come hungry!

There will be vendors from some of our products on hand, including Invisible Fence and Novartis. Door prizes and tours of the hospital will be available. A silent auction will be available, with proceeds going to Capital Area Humane Society. Parking is limited, so plan on parking at the Delhi Township Building. Mark your calendars for June 1st and bring your pets along for a fun filled afternoon celebrating our pets.

## *Heartworm Season*

Spring has sprung, or has it? Heartworm and flea season is quickly approaching. We do recommend heartworm prevention be given **year round** for the benefit of the intestinal parasite control, but heartworm disease is spread by mosquitoes.

The minimum amount of time your pet should be on heartworm prevention is April through December. With some of the warm ups we've had in March, giving your pet prevention in April will prevent any infected mosquito bites from last month developing into heartworm disease.

Remember, cats can also develop heartworm disease as can indoor dogs. Mosquitoes can enter the house and infect pets that are mainly indoors.

A heartworm test must be performed annually. Our heartworm tests also test for tick born diseases. If your pet is on year round prevention, we try to coincide the test with your annual exam and vaccines.

Call us today if your pet is not on heartworm and parasite prevention. We can help you choose the correct preventative for your pet, family and lifestyle.

## ***Broken Rules***

1. Dogs are never permitted in the house. The dog stays outside in a specially built wooden compartment named, for a good reason, the "dog house."
2. OK, the dog can enter the house, but only for short visits or if his own house is under renovation.
3. OK, the dog can stay in the house on a permanent basis, provided his dog house can be sold.
4. Inside the house, the dog is not allowed to run free and is confined to a comfortable but secure metal cage.
5. OK, the cage becomes part of a two-for-one deal along with the dog house in the yard sale, and the dog can go wherever the heck he pleases.
6. The dog is NEVER allowed on the furniture.
7. OK, the dog can get on the old furniture, but not the new furniture.
8. OK, the dog can get up on the new furniture until it looks like the old furniture and then we'll sell the whole darn works and buy new furniture... upon which the dog will MOST DEFINITELY not be allowed.
9. The dog never sleeps on the bed. Period.
10. OK, the dog can sleep at the foot of the bed.
11. OK, the dog can sleep alongside you, but he's not allowed under the covers.
12. OK, the dog can sleep under the covers, but not with his head on the pillow.
13. OK, the dog can sleep alongside you under the covers with his head on the pillow, but if he snores, he's got to leave the room.
14. OK, the dog can sleep and snore and have nightmares in bed, but he's not to come in and sleep on the couch in the TV room, where I am now sleeping. That's just not fair.
15. The dog never gets listed on the census questionnaire as "primary resident," even if it's true.