



**West Chelsea
Veterinary's**



Tips & Tails

News & Tips You Can Use from Your Friends at West Chelsea Veterinary

May 2009

Tiny Parasites Can Create Big Problems for Pets

Spring is finally here, along with outdoor enjoyment. However, even in New York City and surrounding areas, springtime also brings dangerous parasites like ticks, fleas and heartworms. The good news is, protecting your pet from parasitic diseases is easy and cost effective.



Ticks aren't just harmless little "blood-suckers," they can spread

disease and pose a serious threat to human and animal health alike. Lyme disease, Anaplasmosis, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and Ehrlichiosis are just a few diseases ticks can transmit to pets, and sometimes people. According to West Chelsea's Dr. Mike Farber, "A simple in-hospital blood test can identify whether your pet has been exposed to some of these diseases. If diagnosed, most pets can be treated with antibiotics." If your pet experiences a sudden onset of fever, lethargy, muscle aches or joint pain, please see your veterinarian.

Heartworm disease is a serious, and potentially fatal, condition caused by parasitic worms. With just a bite, infected mosquitoes can spread this disease to pets. Symptoms of heartworm include coughing, lethargy, vomiting, collapse, seizures and respiratory problems. Preventing heartworm disease can be as easy as giving your pet a once-a-month chewable treat. Annual screening for heartworm disease is also very important. Treatment of the disease is much more difficult once these symptoms appear, so early detection is the key!

Fleas, like ticks, feed on blood. Pets' furry physiques makes them an ideal living environment for fleas in hiding. Fleas can cause anemia and transmit tapeworm and cat scratch fever. With a variety of preventative treatments available today, your vet can help determine which is best for your pet. "Parasite treatments should not be administered without advice from your vet. Treatments meant for a dog can cause very serious harm to a cat," says Dr. Farber.

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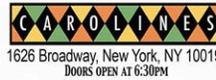


FUNNY FOR FIDO

"Comics stand-up for homeless animals"



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West Chelsea
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Funny For Fido is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization

West Chelsea Veterinary is a Proud Sponsor of "Funny for Fido"

On June 3, 2009, comics from HBO, Comedy Central and David Letterman will hit the mic to make people laugh, all in the name of raising funds for homeless animals.

West Chelsea Veterinary is a proud sponsor of this year's "Funny for Fido" annual stand-up comedy event.

The night's all-star line up of comedians include Dave Attell, Judah Friedlander, Mike DeStefano, Pete Correale and hosted by Justin Silver. Visit www.funnyforfido.org for more information.