

CVC Newsletter

July 2004

Countryside Veterinary
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Summer Pet Care Tips

The warm summer weather is welcomed by most people, but most make lifestyle adjustments to deal with the warmer weather. Our pets need special consideration during this season also. Remember to never leave your pet in a parked car during warm weather, as extremely hot temperatures can easily develop inside the car and lead to heat exhaustion, brain damage and even death in our pets. If you must leave your pet in the car always park in the shade and leave the window partially open. When transporting your pet a safety restraint harness for the pet will help to prevent injury if there is a sudden stop or an accident. Never allow your pet to ride in the back of a truck as injury can easily occur.

If you are using fertilizers or insecticides in the yard or garden be sure to follow precautions to avoid exposure to your pet. As you spend more time outdoors with your pet, the use of collars and microchips for identification is more important as your pet may become separated from you and lost. In extreme heat, limit your pet's time outside and provide plenty of fresh water and shade. If air conditioning is not available try to keep your pet in a cool basement. Discuss the use of heartworm preventatives, flea and tick control, and the merits of micro chipping with your veterinarian.

Summer thunderstorms and the 4th of July celebrations are special considerations and cause stress and anxiety for many pets. Consult your veterinarian if these affect your pet, as there are calmatives that may relieve the stress for your pet.

Addison's Disease

Addison's Disease is caused by deficient production of hormones from the adrenal glands. The hormones affected can be corticosteroids that in part help with the regulation of minerals and electrolytes in the body. Multiple organ systems are affected and the initial problems for the pet can include listlessness, vomiting, weight loss, increased water consumption and urination. The imbalances created can also lead to heart problems including a slow rate and weak pulse, causing the pet to collapse. These symptoms are not specific to Addison's disease and the fact that it can mimic many other conditions can make the diagnosis difficult. In its most serious form, Addisonian crisis, it will cause the pet to go into shock and immediate, intense treatment is necessary as the disease can easily be fatal at that stage. Initial treatment focuses on shock treatment and replacing fluids and deficient hormone. Long-term management is to replace hormones either through daily oral medication, or with long acting injections given at every 3-4 weeks. The long-term prognosis can be quite favorable.

If you notice that your dog has become listless or is having gastrointestinal difficulty, part of the diagnostic testing may help to determine if the problem is consistent with Addison's disease.



Pet of the Month

Daisy Mae Shaddle

Daisy Mae is a special little (long) puppy that was bought at a store that got their puppies from a puppy mill. She was very sick at the beginning but with lots of love and attention she has overcome the earlier hardships to bring lots of happy times to the Shaddle family.



CVC Team Announcements

Congratulations!

Missy is this month's "Employee of the Month". Missy is a veterinary technician and provides excellent care to all of our patients. She assists the veterinarian with appointments, treatments, and surgery. In addition to her patient care dedication Missy also is continually reviewing ways to improve our quality of service. We are dependent on her computer skills to assist with updating our forms and appreciate her dedication to our team. To show appreciation Countryside Veterinary Clinic awards Missy "Employee of the Month".

Anniversaries

Michele A 1 years
Dr Bockelmann 7 years

Birthdays

Karen K July 6
Julie H. July 13
Jacqui V. July 23

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To: Our Valued
Countryside Veterinary
Clinic Clients

