

Flea, Tick, and Heartworm

Flea and Tick Bites:

Flea bites can cause severe allergic reactions, severe itching, and swelling. If left untreated, bites can lead to excessive scratching and chewing that can damage skin. Secondary bacterial or fungal infections can develop as a result. Fleas transmit parasites such as tapeworms, as well as bacterial diseases such as cat scratch fever to humans.

Tick bites can be painful and irritating but more concerning, is the number of serious diseases they can transmit, such as Lyme disease. Lyme disease can cause significant illness and even death in both pets and people.

Preventative:

There are many safe, effective, and easy ways to administer flea control products and most have tick prevention as well. These products are typically administered in tablet or liquid form, or topically by applying the medication directly to the animal's skin. Fleas can be difficult to get rid of and you may need to treat your pet and the affected pet's environment repeatedly. All other animals in the house must also be treated with flea and tick control products, and the house and yard may need to be treated as well.

Heartworm Disease:

Heartworm disease is a serious and potentially fatal condition that affects dogs and cats. It is caused by parasitic worms living in the major blood vessels of the lungs and occasionally, in the heart. Heartworms are spread through the bite of an infected mosquito. Heartworm disease can cause a variety of medical problems affecting the lungs, heart, liver, and/or kidneys. Severe complications or when left untreated, can lead to death. It is virtually 100% preventable with a monthly administered oral or topical medication, yet many dogs are diagnosed with it each year. Whichever heartworm prevention is chosen, prevention is convenient and inexpensive compared to the dangers of the disease for dogs.