



PVPC Newsletter

May 2025 Issue



Attention, Spring savings! Don't forget to call (530)644-2424 to snag the 20% discount we are offering right here at PVPC on all spays and neuters for a limited time offer!

See No Parasites, Have No Parasites: The Importance of Routine Intestinal Parasite Screening



Performing regular parasite screening may not seem like important testing to keep up on for our pets. However, there are many benefits to both the health of dogs and cats to have their fecal samples tested for intestinal parasites on a routine basis.

So, what makes running parasite screening on our pets so important? Well, fecal testing for intestinal parasites allows the detection of roundworms, hookworms, whipworms, tapeworms, coccidia, giardia, and more that may be residing within our beloved pets. All parasites can cause a decline in the overall health of both cats and dogs by stealing all of the essential nutrients they need. As this happens, the pets' immune systems begin to weaken and they acquire other health issues involving vomiting, diarrhea, and lethargy. Some parasites are even zoonotic, meaning

they can be transmitted to humans from animals mostly through contact of contaminated feces. Since some parasites can be passed on to humans, it is especially important to consider having regular fecal parasite screenings done on our pets. The earlier the detection of intestinal parasites, the sooner the pet can be treated and the less likely they will be transmissible to pet owners.

COMMON WORMS THAT DOGS & CATS GET



ROUNDWORMS

You can see roundworms in your dog's poop. They'll look a lot like spaghetti. Your dog may look pot-bellied and he may feel lethargic.



HOOKWORMS

Hookworms are 1/8 to 3/4 inch long and have a hook that attaches to the intestinal lining. Diarrhea and vomiting are the usual symptoms.



WHIPWORMS

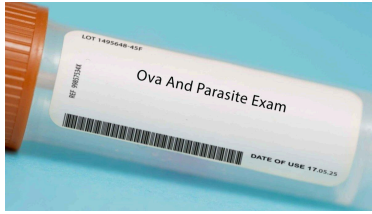
Whipworms are about 2 inches long and tapered at one end, like a whip. Symptoms include diarrhea, vomiting, and weightloss.



TAPEWORMS

Whole tapeworms are flat and about 6 inches long. Usually you'll see the broken-off segments looking like grains of rice in your dog's poop.

When should you have your pet's fecal samples tested for intestinal parasites? Well, it's rather common that puppies and kittens arrive at their new homes with intestinal



parasites. So, the best thing to do is have your regular veterinarian run a routine intestinal screen on a fresh fecal sample as soon as possible. After the initial parasite test, puppies and kittens should be tested at least two to three more times prior to their adult life. Once into adulthood, it's recommended that routine fecal tests be run twice a year. Yes, that may seem a bit overkill especially for those that keep up on their preventatives; however, not all intestinal parasites can be prevented with regularly administered preventatives. Plus, it's always important to make sure preventatives are doing what they are made for and parasites aren't developing resistance to them. As we in veterinary medicine are seeing an increase in both dogs and cats carrying intestinal parasites due to the increase of shelter pets moving across the states, it is becoming more pertinent to our pets' health to perform routine parasite screening.



Meet the Staff

Now that we've made it through all of the newcomers, we'd like to take a moment to introduce you all to one of our assistants, Kelly!



Kelly has been a part of the PVPC family for the past six years; however, she has been in the world of veterinary medicine for 43 years. Her love for animals began as a child when she would rescue dogs and cats that were injured or lost. We certainly hit the jackpot gaining her to our wealth of knowledge in this hospital! In the six years of having her as a part of our team, Kelly has become the "go-to" for our vaccination needs, medication questions, and laser therapy "know all." She has spent most of her time with us running the technician appointments, updating our patient vaccinations and running her nail trim speciality, but she is newly greeting our clients and patients with her lovely presence at the front desk as well as answering all of our clients' medical questions over the phone. Kelly was raised in southern California, but has lived locally in EDC for just over 30 years and currently resides with her husband, Jerry, and their fuzzybutts, Sadie, Charlie, and Penelope. When she is not here providing medical education to our clients, she spends her time reading and enjoys cross stitching and embroidery.



CHECK US OUT!!



Noodle's Notes



FYI

Denise Paquette will be holding more dog training classes right here at PVPC! So, if you weren't able to make the last ones and you still want to join, call/text Denise at (530)277-9910 or email DeniseTheDogTrainer@gmail.com.

Dates: 5/31, 6/7, 6/21
Time: 9:00am for 1 hour

Hey, ya'll! Welcome back to my ever so sweet column here in the PVPC newsletter.

For those who are unaware, May is 'Chip Your Pet Month'! Now, I know we talked about this a lot last year, but I strongly feel that it's still an important topic to bring up. I still see quite a few pets being dropped off at my place who don't have those chips and never make it back to their homes. What I see even more are a lot of my hospital's patients coming in without chips and a lot of their owners opting out of having them implanted. Honestly, having the microchip implanted is no big deal and what's more is it's harmless for them to live under the skin in all your pets. Those dang things can actually be life saving! So, let's make a deal, alright? Go ahead, call my peeps to make your appointments and let's get your furry friends microchipped. Sound easy enough? Sweet, can't wait to see ya'll at your visits!

