

Dermatology: Caring for Your Cat's Skin & Coat

Healthy skin and a shiny coat are signs of a healthy cat. But cats can develop many skin conditions that cause itching, discomfort, and even infections. At Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic, we diagnose and treat a wide range of skin problems to keep your cat comfortable and healthy.



Common Skin Issues in Cats

- **Allergies** – to fleas, food, or environmental triggers like pollen and dust
- **Parasites** – fleas, mites, or lice causing intense itching and irritation
- **Infections** – bacterial or fungal (such as ringworm)
- **Hair loss or overgrooming** – often linked to allergies, stress, or medical conditions
- **Masses or skin growths** – lumps or bumps that need veterinary evaluation



Signs of Skin Problems

Contact us if you notice:

- Constant scratching, licking, or chewing
- Bald spots or thinning hair
- Red, scabby, or flaky skin
- Bumps, sores, or wounds that won't heal
- Ear scratching, head shaking, or discharge
- Excessive grooming or behavioral changes linked to skin irritation



How We Diagnose Skin Conditions

Our veterinary team may recommend:

- **Skin exams and scrapings** to look for parasites
- **Cytology or cultures** to check for infection
- **Allergy testing or food trials** for chronic cases
- **Bloodwork** to identify underlying conditions



Treatment Options

Depending on the cause, treatment may include:

- *Flea prevention and parasite control*
- *Medicated shampoos, creams, or ear cleaners*
- *Antibiotics or antifungal medications*
- *Special diets for food allergies*
- *Anti-itch or anti-inflammatory medications*
- *Long-term allergy management plans*



Supporting Healthy Skin at Home

- *Keep your cat on year-round flea prevention*
- *Feed a high-quality diet*
- *Schedule regular wellness exams*
- *Monitor for changes in your cat's skin, coat, or grooming habits*

👉 **Bottom line:** *Skin problems in cats are common, but with the right diagnosis and treatment, most can be managed successfully.*

📞 *Contact Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic if your cat is itching, losing hair, or showing signs of skin trouble — we're here to help.*