

Spring Newsletter 2014

# Winslow Animal Hospital

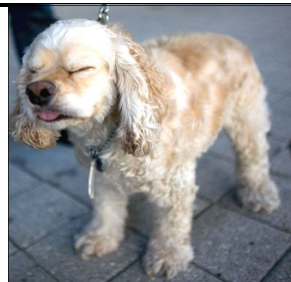
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## AhAh-CHOO.... Is "Fido" suffering from seasonal allergies?

Spring has sprung and so have all of the allergic ailments of the season. Everyone recognizes the typical sneezing symptom associated with allergies, but most dogs exhibit symptoms through skin infections, ear infections and itching. There are a few main types of allergies that can affect your dog: atopic (skin) or inhalant such as airborne pollens, dust mites and mold, food allergies, and flea allergies. Some dogs can be reactive to *multiple* allergens.



**Allergy Type**

**What Can You Do?**

Atopic/Inhalant

- Shield dog from exposure of allergens : HEPA filter/air purifier for home, vacuum frequently, wipe paws off after being outdoors.
- Dr. prescribed medication, Allergy testing/treatments.
- Omega-3 fatty acids

Flea

- Decrease exposure to flea bites through use of prescription topical flea medication as directed.

Food

- Hypoallergenic food and treats containing novel proteins
- Elimination diet if necessary.

We strive to keep your dog happy, healthy and itch-free. Contact our office for an examination if you suspect your dog is suffering from allergies.

## April Showers Bring May Hazards

Winslow Animal Hospital would like to remind you that while all flowers are beautiful, some varieties of plants can carry serious risks to your pets. Autumn crocus, Azalea, Daffodils, Cyclamen,

Lilly of the valley, Olean-der, Sago Palm, Iris , Morning Glory, Philodendron, Rhododendron and Tulips can all cause varying negative symptoms in cats and dogs. Be aware that it is not always the adult plant that

can be toxic. In some cases, it is the seeds or roots that cause the toxicity. In cats, most Lilies are extremely toxic and if ingested can be fatal, even in small amounts.





## Poison Prevention Awareness Month: March

Poison is a constant threat to pets, and it can come in many different packages. Here are some of the top poisons.

### Dog Poisons:

1. Chocolate (especially baker's chocolate)
2. Mouse and Rat Poisons
3. Vitamins and Minerals
4. NSAIDs (e.g., ibuprofen, naproxen, etc.)
5. Cardiac Medications (e.g., calcium channel blockers, beta-

- blockers, etc.)
6. Cold and Allergy Medications (e.g., pseudoephedrine, phenylephrine, etc.)
7. Antidepressants (e.g., selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors)
8. Xylitol
9. Acetaminophen (e.g., Tylenol)
10. Caffeine Pills

### Cat Poisons:

1. Some topical spot-on insecti-

- cides
2. Household Cleaners
3. Antidepressants
4. Lilies
5. Human and Veterinary NSAIDs
6. Cold and Flu Medication (e.g., Tylenol)
7. Glow Sticks
8. ADD/ADHD Medications/Amphetamines

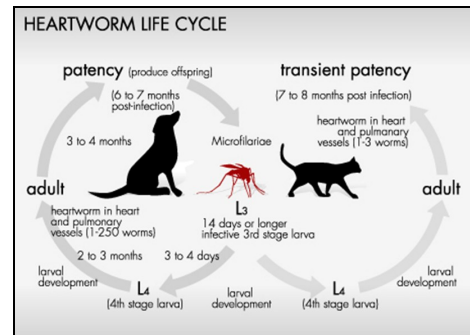


## April is National Heartworm Awareness Month: Prevent Heartworm Year Round

Prevention is the key to your pet's protection against a heartworm infection! Dogs get heartworm disease by being bitten by an infected mosquito. Heartworm disease has been reported in all 50 states!

The only way heartworms are transmitted is through an infected mosquito, not from dog to dog. After a mosquito bites an infected dog, the worms must go through an incubation period in the mosquito.

It takes about seven months, once a dog is bitten by an infected mosquito, for the



larvae to mature into adult heartworms. They then lodge in the heart, lungs, and surrounding blood vessels and begin reproducing.

Adult worms can grow up to 12 inches in length, can live 5-7 years, and a dog can have as many as 250 worms in its system.

Heartworms can be destructive to the heart and may kill your dog. Prevention is vital to your dog's good health, affordable, and as easy as giving a tasty treat.

## April 20-26 is National Pet ID Week: Get Microchipped!

Microchips are tiny computer chips, about the size of a grain of rice. A microchip has a unique identification number stored on it. The microchip is usually inserted under the skin between the shoulders, and feels about the same as getting a vaccine.

When your pet gets microchipped, the number of his or her chip is registered. Then, if your pet should get lost and taken to an animal shelter, the people at the animal shelter can scan the microchip, call the registry, and find you! Even if your pet loses his or

her collar, you have the benefit of knowing your pet can always be identified by that microchip!



# PET FIRE SAFETY

Protect Your Pets from Danger

## Pets and Fires



**40,000 Pets are Killed in Home Fires Each Year**



**1,000 Home Fires are Started by Pets Each Year**



**500,000 Pets are Affected by Home Fires Each Year**

## Preparing for an Emergency



### Keep Identification on Your Pet

In addition to tags, consider microchipping your pet to protect against loss or theft.



### Make Arrangements for a Safe Place

In the event of an emergency that requires evacuation, it is important that you get to know where your pets can go. If it's not safe for you, it's not safe for them.



### Get a Rescue Alert Sticker

These window stickers let rescue workers know about pets in the home in case of emergency.



#### Emergency Kit Contents

- ✓ Medications and Medical records
- ✓ Leashes and carriers
- ✓ Current photos in case they are lost
- ✓ Bowls, cat litter and pan
- ✓ Plastic bags and paper towels for waste
- ✓ Emergency contact numbers
- ✓ Food and bottled

## Prevent Fires



Remove or cover stove knobs. Stoves are the number one piece of equipment in pet-related fires.



Pet-Proof your home. Remove any hazards, such as loose wires.



Never leave open flame unattended. Consider flameless candles.

[winslowanimalhospital.com](http://winslowanimalhospital.com)

Source: [petfirealert.com](http://petfirealert.com)



@WinslowVets



## Our Mission

The doctors and staff of Winslow Animal Hospital will act as pet advocates by caring for your pets as if they were our own. We will strive to extend and enhance the quality and duration of their lives by delivering high quality and cutting edge medical, surgical, and dental services in a friendly and compassionate environment. It is of great importance that we show respect for our clients, our co-workers, and most of all, the pets to whom we provide care.



**@WinslowVets**



### New Product Spotlight:

#### Welactin

A rich source of Omega-3 fatty acids derived from cold water fish and formulated to deliver substantial levels of EPA and DHA fatty acids. Omega-3 fatty acids have been shown to boost skin/coat, heart, brain/vision, musculoskeletal and immune system health. Winslow Animal Hospital is now carrying both canine and feline formulas. It comes in a tasty, liquid formula that is poured into food for easy dosing.

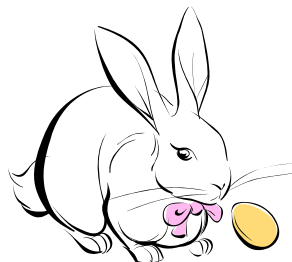
**Sentinel** is a monthly oral preventive for dogs that guards against heartworms, adult roundworms, adult hookworms, whipworms, and prevents the development of flea eggs. Sentinel artificial beef flavored chewable tablets should be given every month year-round. Sentinel requires a prescription from your veterinarian. Store Sentinel at room temperature. Do not remove the tablet from its wrapper until ready to give the medicine. Keep this medication away from children and pets.

## Spring 2014 Events

### Photos with the Easter Bunny—April 6, 2014

11:00 am -3:00 pm

Have your pet's photo taken with our Easter Bunny. Receive a 4 x 6 picture. All donations benefit West Jersey Volunteer for Animals



### Client Education Series— Understanding Nutrition and Your Pet's Needs, date TBA

Come and hear a lecture on nutrition for pets, understanding pet food labels, and how to select the right food for your pets.

### Earth Day at Washington Lake Park— April 26