



Acadia Pet News

SUMMER 2008



To Add to Your Knowledge of and Pleasure in Your Pets' Good Health
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Summertime Tips

By following a few summer pet safety tips, you can keep your animal friends healthy and enjoy the months of sun and fun.

Never leave your pet in the car. Though it may seem cool outside, the sun can raise the temperature inside your car to 120 degrees Fahrenheit in a matter of minutes, even with the windows rolled down.

Water, water, everywhere. Whether you're indoors or out, both you and your pet need access to lots of fresh water during the summer. If you and your furry friend venture forth for the afternoon, bring plenty of water for both of you.

Pets need sunscreen too. Though all that fur helps protect her, your pet can get sunburned, particularly if she has light skin and hair. Sunburn in animals can cause problems including pain, peeling, and skin cancer. So keep your pet out of the sun between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., and when you do go out, rub a bit of sunblock on unprotected areas like the tips of her ears, the skin around her lips, and the tip of her nose.

Watch out for antifreeze. Hot weather may tempt your pet to drink from puddles in the street, which can contain antifreeze and other chemicals. Antifreeze has a sweet taste that animals like, but it's extremely toxic.

Make sure your pet doesn't overexert herself. Though exercise is an important part of keeping your dog or cat at a healthy weight, which helps her body stay cool, overdoing it can cause her to overheat. Keep the walks to a gentle pace and make sure she has plenty of water. If she's panting a lot or seems exhausted, it's time to stop.

Take it easy on pets that can't deal with the heat. Elderly, very young, and ill animals have a hard time regulating their body temperature, so make sure they stay cool and out of the sun on steamy summer days. Dogs with snub noses, such as Pekingese, pugs, and bulldogs, have a hard time staying cool because they can't pant efficiently. Overweight dogs are more prone to overheating, because the extra fat acts as insulation and restricts their breathing capabilities.

Bring them inside. Animals shouldn't be left outside unsupervised on long, hot days, even in the shade. Shade can move throughout the afternoon, and pets can become ill quickly if they overheat, so keep them inside as much as possible. If you must leave your pet in the backyard, keep a close eye on her and bring her in when you can. Keep your pets indoors prior to and following any days/events that include fireworks.

Rattlesnakes!!! It is rattlesnake season! If your dog is in an area with rattlesnake exposure, please discuss the rattlesnake vaccine with our doctors.

Toxic Summertime Items Our Pets Should Avoid:

Grapes, Avocados, Apple Seeds, Aloe Vera, English Ivy, Bird of Paradise, Hydrangea, Peony, Wisteria, Antifreeze

This article was reprinted with permission from the American Animal Hospital Association and www.HealthyPet.com

Success Stories

Isabella, a very cute 2 month old Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, came to Acadia for puppy boosters. Since Isabella's last visit, 3 weeks earlier, she had developed two prominent swellings on each side of the lower jaw and she could only open her mouth 2 cm with considerable pain! A comprehensive blood panel and skull radiographs were performed and were unremarkable. Isabella was referred to Dr. Holmstrom, a local board-certified veterinary dentist, and he strongly suspected Masticatory Muscle Myositis (MMM).

MMM is an autoimmune disease that attacks specific muscle fibers only found in the muscles of the head used for chewing. German Shepherds and Weimaraners are thought to be predisposed. However a new study published in the Journal of Small Animal Practice (2007), discussed an atypical form of MMM that affected three Cavalier King Charles Spaniel littermates.

A special antibody test was sent out to the lab which confirmed the diagnosis. Isabella underwent temporary treatment with immunosuppressive doses of prednisolone. She now plays roughly with her littermate brother, Moose, who was unaffected. She is much happier again being able to open her mouth normally and the swellings have gone away.

Annie, a cute little 2 year old Chihuahua, suddenly became lame in one of her rear limbs and began running around on three legs, much to the surprise her owners. Although she improved somewhat over the course of a week, her lameness persisted and she was examined at Acadia by Dr. Eric Griesshaber. Dr. Griesshaber discovered that she had a dislocated patella (knee-cap). Radiographs were taken to confirm the diagnosis and evaluate the conformation of her tibia (lower leg bone) and the entire stifle (knee) joint. This condition is termed Medial Patellar Luxation, and requires an orthopedic surgical repair. Annie was scheduled for surgery with Dr. Jones where he performed a Tibial Crest Transposition and trochlearplasty procedure to permanently correct the condition. Annie is recovering nicely and should be back to running on "all fours" very soon.



Irish, a 9 year old Irish Setter, presented to the doctors at Acadia for vomiting and diarrhea. After an examination and blood tests were performed, she was sent home with medication and dietary changes, expected to make a quick recovery. However, Irish's condition worsened and she returned the next day because of more frequent vomiting, including water! When she arrived she was dehydrated and lethargic. Irish was hospitalized and given intravenous fluid therapy. She had radiographs taken as well as further blood tests. Irish slowly improved after a night of intensive care at the emergency clinic and continued gentle nursing at Acadia. She was discharged feeling better and able to drink and eat without vomiting. Irish's final diagnosis was Acute Pancreatitis, which was confirmed by a special blood test. Pancreatitis can be a potentially life threatening disease that is sometimes triggered by eating rich foods that are not part of the normal diet, like "left-overs" or garbage. Irish may have ingested something at the park she frequents the day before her symptoms began. Irish is lucky to have very attentive and concerned owners that followed all doctors' instructions to help get her well.



The Acadia Team

STAFF NEWS



Kim, Charles & Mike

Acadia is pleased to introduce Kim Gable and Joanna Gross. Kim and Joanna joined our team in September of 2007. Both have exceptional customer skills and care deeply for our four legged patients. Kim

has 5 years of customer service experience. She works with Charles as a veterinary nurse, keeps our inventory in stock, and is helping us prepare for our AAHA (American

Animal Hospital Association) inspection. Joanna, a New York native, brings with her 5 years of veterinary related experience. She enjoys assisting with technical procedures, has scanned the majority of our paper records (allowing us to become "paperless") and works alongside Holly as a customer relations expert. If you

have not met Kim or Joanna, please stop by to say h e l l o .



Andre



Joanna & Holly

NEW!

Acadia Veterinary Clinic would like to introduce our new Puppy and Kitten Packages. They are designed to help get your new puppy or kitten started on a vaccine schedule that will establish lifelong protective immunity and reduce the risk of disease.

After weaning, puppies and kittens need to receive vaccinations every 3-4 weeks until they are about 4 months old. Our packages include de-worming, a fecal exam to rule out parasitic disease as well as the vaccinations and recheck exams that are necessary to get your pet protected and maintain good health. The packages also help you save money. We will also get your pet started on his/her first dose of Heartgard and Advantage or Advantix, which is included in the packages as well. Please stop by our reception desk to inquire about these new packages.

Puppy Package

\$250

Package Includes Up To:

- 3 Physical Examinations
 - 3 DHP Vaccines
 - 1 Bordetella Vaccine
 - 1 Rabies Vaccine
 - 1 Fecal Flotation
 - 1 Deworming
 - 1 Dose of Heartgard
 - 1 Dose of Advantix
- Puppy Package expires at 5 1/2 months of age

Total Value: Up to \$366

Total Savings: \$116

Kitten Package

\$250

Package Includes Up To:

- 3 Physical Examinations
 - 3 FVRCP Vaccines
 - 2 FELV Vaccines
 - 1 FELV/FIV Blood Test
 - 1 Rabies Vaccine
 - 1 Fecal Flotation
 - 1 Deworming
 - 1 Dose of Frontline
- Kitten Package expires at 5 1/2 months of age

Total Value: Up to \$441

Total Savings: \$191

Acadia



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Mon - Fri
8am - 6pm
Sat
9am - 2pm

www.AcadiaVet.com



15%

Acadia Veterinary Clinic Coupon

15%

Dental Coupon

15% off

Total Invoice

(Which Includes Dental Treatment)

15%



15%

Summer 2008 Newsletter

Expires 10/1/2008