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Centreville Animal Hospital Newsletter

www.CentrevilleAnimalHospital.com

"Helping you Experience the Unconditional Love"

Centreville Animal Hospital

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News and Views

Survey PLEASE TELL US HOW WE ARE DOING....

Your input helps us to constantly improve. Please visit our website www.CentrevilleAnimalHospital.com and click on the survey link in the top left corner. All survey respondents will be entered in our weekly gift drawing. Please respond soon our survey will be open until October 24th.

our hospital is in a new home on the net where we will have a much more dynamic web site with frequent updates and archived information in order to provide helpful information for all our clients."

Halloween Prevention for Pets

1. Lots of people like to have fun during the Halloween festivities, but our pets can truly be "spooked" by all of the noises and costumes. Halloween is a holiday with many dangers for our dogs and cats.
2. Dressing up is fun for everyone, but may not be very fun for our pets. If your pet tolerates a costume, there are some things to keep in mind.



3. Your pet must be comfortable at all times. Avoid any costumes that use rubber bands or anything that might constrict circulation or breathing. Likewise, avoid costumes with toxic paints or dyes. Your pet's costume should be inedible.
4. If your pet appears uncomfortable in any way, allow him to dress up in his "birthday suit".
5. Costumes on people can be equally scary to pets. Masks, large hats, and other costume accessories can confuse pets and may even trigger territorial instincts. It is not unusual for pets to act protective or be fearful of people in costumes, even if they normally are very social with that person.
6. Remember, you are responsible for controlling your pet and insuring that he does not bite any of the neighbourhood ghosts.
7. The two biggest concerns for pets during the holiday are injuries and poisonings. .
8. The excitement of the day may be too much for even the best-behaved dog. Constant visitors to the door as well as the spooky sights and sounds may cause some pets to become fearful, These pets could run away and become injured in a variety of ways.
9. Consider allowing your dog to spend Halloween in his own special place inside with special treats, safe and secure from the goblins. Even if you have a fenced yard, Halloween is definitely not a good night for your dog to be outside without supervision and restraint.
10. Some Halloween decorations can be unsafe as well. Fake cobwebs or anything resembling a string can be tempting to cats, leading to a foreign body obstruction.
11. Candles inside of pumpkins are easily knocked over, burning your pet or even starting a fire.
12. Keep your pet away from the Halloween candy. Chocolate can be toxic to pets and even small amounts can cause heart problems and vomiting.



13. Lollipop sticks and foil wrappers can become lodged in your pet's digestive tract, causing painful obstructions.
14. Candy that is sweetened with Xylitol® can cause low blood sugar in dogs and has been implicated in liver failure as well.
15. Although the threat is probably minimal, many people are concerned about black cats during this time of year. It might be wise to keep all cats indoors during this holiday.
16. If you can't keep your cat indoors, considering a boarding facility or your family veterinarian. It may help to keep your friend safe!

Blood Pressure Measurements in Cats & Dogs Centreville

We take this health measurement for granted when we go to the hospital, doctor's office and even the dentist's office. The procedure is straight forward and helpful to monitor our health status. We are not quite as fortunate with cats and dogs to be able to acquire a meaningful blood pressure number. But technology and especially our licensed technician staff's skill and abilities are improving the availability for you to benefit from knowing this parameter. You will see more and more times when your pet needs this information to monitor its kidney function, medication effects on the body, during anesthesia, and at other health determinations. You will see less and less white coat effect on your pet's blood pressure by not seeing doctor's around your pet until this measurement is taken.

Influenza in People and Dogs. Centreville This is the season for the flu. Dog flu and people flu are totally separate and there is no knowledge the two viruses cross from our four legged creatures to us and vice versa. But similarities do exist.

First Aid Kits for Your Pet Centreville Let me list a few things to consider having at your finger tips to aid your pet if an emergency occurs. Let's talk here about information and next



month talk about objects and things needed to have available. Observation, knowledge of the norm and the common knowledge in your house, car, vacation home, and work place to find help. IN first aid classes, the first thing when an emergency is even considered is to get professional help. Once the professionals in health care are notified and told the problem as you sense it and where to come and find you, then your job is to help that individual. But the professionals are needed to help you.

Call our office number 24/7 at 703 830-1182. After hours, the first message received is a direct link to an emergency care facility close by that is open 365 days a year at all times each day. They cannot come to you is the big difference from human first aid. So you need to be prepared to go to them or us. You cannot get hurt in the process with a hurt and possible painful animal so think how you can transport your pet or an injured pet to a veterinary facility. Our police and animal wardens seldom will be able to assist you either. If our facility is not the closest one to your location, know in advance where other veterinary facilities are located and how to contact them.

Our Professional Staff Centreville We were recently asked a question about the experience of our doctors and licensed technicians. The number becomes amazing when you add the years that our staff has been providing care and compassion, learning from our exposures to different health issues and new dog and cat issues constantly. We have over 66 years of doctor experience on our staff and over 25 years of experience in nursing care, dental procedure skills, and lots of compassion and caring used daily in monitoring patients in our licensed technicians. Add in many years of experience in our assistants, receptionists and care givers to give an other all well established staff where problems are still new and challenging to us but the knowledge to solve problems is based on these years of assisting you keeping your pets healthy.

> US - LOST PET SERVICE The American Animal Hospital Association announced that it has created the AAHA Universal Pet Microchip Lookup Tool. The free Internet-based resource is designed to help veterinary hospitals, animal control facilities and shelter staff members reunite lost pets with their owners by checking participating pet recovery services' registries to determine which registry should be



contacted. Participating companies include the American Kennel Club Companion Animal Recovery, HomeAgain by **Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health**, Petlink by **Datamars** and resQ by **Bayer Animal Health**; more companies are anticipated to come on board within the next few weeks. (*Pet Product News*)

We welcome your comments and concerns because, in the end, we share a common goal: Happy and contented pets that are members of your family for a very long time.