



Vol. 09 Number 11

Centreville Animal Hospital Newsletter

[www.CentrevilleAnimalHospital.com](http://www.CentrevilleAnimalHospital.com)

“Helping you Experience the Unconditional Love”

Centreville Animal Hospital

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## News and Views

**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*)

**H1N1 & Companion Pets** Recent reports from [www.MyVNN.com](http://www.MyVNN.com) November 5, 2009

1. The novel “swine flu” (H1N1) has been a serious additional health concern for people during this current flu season.
2. Until recently, experts believed that, with the exception of birds and pet pigs, our pets were not susceptible to this virus. In fact, we don't generally worry about our pets with any of the common seasonal flu strains.
3. Now, 2 cases of H1N1 in ferrets and a single cat that tested positive for the virus have shown that human transmission of the bug to our pets is possible.
4. So far, a ferret in Oregon tested positive as did a ferret in Nebraska who subsequently died. The 13 year old cat in Iowa who tested positive has recovered without incident. To date, no dogs have tested positive.



5. Currently, treatments for pets that contract H1N1 are supportive care and antibiotics. Like most people, it appears that this flu causes a mild illness in pets.
6. Veterinarians and the CDC will continue to monitor H1N1 in order to make sure pets and people stay protected.
7. At this time, there is not an H1N1 vaccine that has been approved for pets.
8. Veterinarians and public health experts continue to stress the importance of hand washing and remaining at home if you are sick.
9. Even though pets bring us lots of comfort, it is best to avoid sleeping or snuggling with your pets (especially ferrets) if you are ill.
10. Veterinarians are aware of the possible transmission of H1N1 to cats and ferrets. Your local animal hospital is best suited to care for your pet and prevent diseases, so don't be afraid to take your pet to the veterinarian if you are concerned.
11. At this time, this appears to be an isolated incident and the cat has recovered.
12. The Veterinary News Network will continue to monitor this potential concern and provide updates as needed.

**HUMAN ANIMAL BOND** The Waltham Center for Pet Nutrition, a division of **Mars**, announced it has committed more than \$2 million to the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development for human animal interaction research. The donation will be combined with funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to form what the Institute claims is the first formal program in human-animal interaction. Clinical trials will focus on the role animals play in both physical and psychological therapeutic treatments for humans. (*Veterinary Practice News*)

## **First Aid Part 2. Items you should have handy and know how to use.**

### **Basic supplies**

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Dog owners can treat minor injuries for their pets if they have the appropriate remedies, tools, and equipment available. The following items were included in a first aid kit and a home first aid kit needs many of the same items.

- **Gauze sponges** -- 50 four-by-four inch sponges, two per envelope
- **Triple antibiotic ointment**
- **Rubbing alcohol**
- **Ear syringe** -- two ounce capacity



- **Ace self-adhering athletic bandage** -- three-inch width
- **White petroleum jelly** (Vaseline or similar)
- **Eye wash**
- **Sterile, non-adherent pads**
- **Pepto Bismol tablets**
- **Generic Benadryl capsules** -- 25mg size, for allergies
- **Hydrocortisone acetate** -- one percent cream
- **Sterile stretch gauze bandage** -- three inches by four yards
- **Buffered aspirin** not for cats EVER!
- **Dermicil hypoallergenic cloth tape** one inch by 10 yards
- **Hydrogen peroxide**
- **Kaopectate tablets** maximum strength not for cats
- **Bandage scissors**
- **Custom splints** or items that can be used as splints
- **VetWrap bandage** if available

Other suggested items were:

- **Blanket**
- **Tweezers**
- **Muzzle**
- **Hemostats**
- **Rectal thermometer**
- **Ziplock bags**
- **Paperwork**, including the dog's health record, medications, local and national poison control numbers, regular veterinary clinic hours and telephone numbers, and emergency clinic hours and telephone number.

#### **Emergency Treatment 24-Hour Hotlines:**

ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center

1-888-4-ANI-HELP or 1-888-426-4435

National Animal Poison Control Center

1-900-680-0000 or 1-800-548-2423

The Hope Center, 140 Park Street, Vienna, VA 22180 703 281 5121

Centreville Animal Hospital, 13663 Lee Hwy, Centreville, VA 20121 703 830-1182

First Aid Guides:

"The First Aid Companion For Dogs and Cats", and

Dog Owner's Home Veterinary Handbook

(<http://www.doctordog.com/dogbook/dogch01.html>),

Cat Owner's Home Veterinary Handbook

(<http://www.doctordog.com/catbook/catch01.html>)



**NOVEMBER TIPS Centreville** November is here and right around the corner Thanksgiving is lurking. Time for family gatherings, large tables of food and plenty of naps!

Although most November goodies that will be loaded on the table seem like dog friendly treats, please discourage family members from feeding your pet table scraps.

Turkey can actually cause your pets' abdominal pain, vomiting, and diarrhea. Instead try dog friendly turkey treats!

High sodium food like peanuts and chips, and other fatty foods like poultry skin and beef can cause inflammation of the pancreas. Pancreatitis can cause vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, and decreased appetite. Pancreatitis can also be life threatening if not treated in time.

Turkey and chicken bones are also dangerous! Their brittle spiky bones can cause severe esophageal, stomach and intestinal pain and irritation. They could also end up tearing through the intestines resulting in surgery or worse.

During the holidays with lots of family over, it's easy to stray from your daily routine. To minimize stress, and to prevent the feeling of neglect and insecurity in your pet, attempt to maintain your daily routine as best as possible.

Make sure your pets are getting enough attention; they are fed proper pet food; always have clean water; and keep the trash out of their reach!

Make this November a safe and happy place for you, your family, and your pets!

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.