



Animal Clinic of Chardon

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APRIL 2017 NEWSLETTER



Did you know?

The mosquito is the only known vector for transmitting heartworm. The average lifespan of heartworms in untreated pets is 5-7 years in dogs and 2-3 years in cats.

Heartworms may infect more than 30 species of animals including coyotes, foxes, wolves and other wild canids, domestic cats and wild felids, ferrets, marine mammals, and humans.

Female cat fleas begin egg production within 24 to 36 hours of their first blood meal and lay up to 50 eggs per day.

While rare, humans can get heartworm disease. However, heartworm disease is transmitted only by the bite of a mosquito that is carrying the infective stage of the parasite. Petting or being licked by your dog will not transmit the disease.

Special deal on Nexgard!

9 Spring-Time Pet Hazards

1. Ticks and Tick-borne Disease

Ticks are more than just creepy; they can spread a number of different diseases that affect both pets and people: [Lyme disease](#), [ehrlichiosis](#), [Rocky Mountain spotted fever](#), [anaplasmosis](#), tularemia, and [babesiosis](#). The best way to protect your pet is with preventative treatment. Ask your veterinarian for advice and click here to [learn more about ticks and the diseases they spread](#).

2. Antifreeze

[Antifreeze is extremely dangerous](#) to pets because most types have a sweet smell and taste—dogs tend to dive right in and lap it up. Because of this, antifreeze poisoning is one of the most common forms of poisoning in pets. Fortunately, “pet-safer” types of antifreeze that are not as attractive to pets are available. [Beware, antifreeze is not the only garage hazard](#).

3. Heartworm

Heartworm disease is transmitted by mosquitoes. It is a serious disease that primarily affects the heart and lungs, but can also affect the liver, kidney, eyes, and central nervous system; if left untreated, it can cause death. [Fortunately, effective preventatives are available](#).



4. Fertilizers and Mulch

[According to the PetPoisonHelpline](#), most fertilizers contain a wide assortment of potentially toxic substances including iron and nitrogen. They could also have pesticides, fungicides, or herbicides. Even if the chemicals don't poison your pet, large amounts of fertilizer could result in [gastrointestinal or pancreatic problems](#).

5. Metaldehyde (Slug Bait)

Snail bait represents a major risk for dogs and cats and is a more common source of poisoning than you may expect. Snail and slug bait products typically contain the poison metaldehyde, and they taste sweet to pets. It's important that [you know the symptoms](#) of metaldehyde poisoning in case your pet is exposed.

6. Bee Stings

Like people, some dogs can have an allergic reaction to bee stings, especially if stung by multiple bees. Talk to your [veterinarian](#) about how you can



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keep your pup safe from bee stings, and what to do if your dog is stung.

7. Snakes

There are 20 species of venomous snakes in North America, and they are found in every state except Alaska, Hawaii, and Maine. A rattlesnake can bite your dog even if the meeting is not face-to-face. Rattlesnakes can strike as far as half of their own body length. Although they usually warn before striking by rattling their tail, they don't always. [Learn more about venomous snakes here.](#)

8. Thawing Ponds

Your dog may be accustomed to taking walks over ice covered lakes, rivers and ponds. As the ice begins to thaw, the new dangers presented by exposed water are likely not going to be apparent to him. By keeping your dog on a leash you can protect him from [falling through the thin ice.](#)

9. Ivermectin

Horse dewormers often contain ivermectin; it's also used in small doses to kill parasites in dogs. Toxicity can occur if a dog is given an excessive dose of the medication. [To prevent ivermectin toxicity](#) keep horse products out of his reach and only administer the prescribed amount of heartworm medication as instructed by your veterinarian.

Fear Free Celebration!

Our entire team has been working hard to become Fear Freesm certified professionals and we'd like you to celebrate with us! Stop by on April 12th to learn more about what it means to be Fear Freesm.



We are dedicated to caring for your pet's emotional well-being as well as his or her physical well-being.

