

1460 Swan Road
De Pere, WI 54115
(920) 336-9595
www.happytailsclinic.com

HAPPY TAILS veterinary clinic

Summer 2016

Household Hazards

WHO KNEW?

- Cats have a third eyelid, called a haw, which is rarely visible. If it can be seen, it could be an indication of ill health
- A cat's tail held high means happiness. A twitching tail is a warning sign, and a tail tucked in close to the body is a sure sign of insecurity

"A HOUSE IS NOT A HOME WITHOUT A PET."

~ UNKNOWN

dental problems can cause or be caused by other health problems. Your pet's teeth and gums should be checked at least once a year by your vet for early signs of a problem and to keep your pet's mouth healthy. After a thorough cleaning under anesthesia, an oral exam of a pet's mouth is performed. In some cases, X-rays are required to evaluate the health of the jaw and tooth roots below the gum line. Dental cleaning includes scaling to remove dental plaque and tartar and polishing, similar to the process used on your own teeth during your regular dental cleanings.

Have your pet's teeth checked if you observe any of the following:

- bad breath

1. Plants- Many people have plants inside and outside of their house that they don't realize can be potentially dangerous to their pets. Some plants to avoid include: azalea, oleander, daffodils, hyacinths, amaryllis, autumn crocus, cyclamen, kalanchoe, lilies, dieffenbachia, sago palm, tulips, poinsettias and mistletoe.

2. Human medications- Over the counter medications such as aspirin, acetaminophen, Advil and Motrin can cause permanent liver damage if ingested, especially in large amounts. Prescription drugs such as antidepressants are toxic to pets.

3. Aluminum foil- if ingested it can cause vomiting and intestinal blockage. Cellophane and other wrappers can cause problems as well.



4. Cleaning supplies- The most likely culprits include: dish-washing chemicals, lime removal products, and drain, oven and toilet cleaners.

5. Alcohol- Beverages and food products that contain alcohol should never be given to your pet. Alcohol ingestion can cause vomiting, diarrhea, decreased coordination, difficulty breathing, coma and even death.

6. Human food- Onions, garlic and chives can cause gastrointestinal irritation and red blood cell damage. Raw or undercooked meat, raw eggs and bones may contain harmful bacteria. Bones can splinter and cause injuries, blockages or even choking. Grapes, raisins and currants are toxic to

dogs. Greasy, spicy or fatty foods can cause an upset stomach or potentially pancreatitis. Other harmful foods include: nuts, milk or other dairy products, yeast dough, salty snack foods, coffee, chocolate, and citrus. Xylitol is commonly used as a sweetener in many products but it can cause insulin release which can lead to liver failure.

If you think your pet has ingested a toxin remove the pet from the area, do not give any home remedies and do not induce vomiting without consulting your veterinarian. Some toxins can actually do more damage if vomiting is induced. You can contact the pet poison helpline at 855-764-7661. If you feel veterinary attention is needed, contact your veterinarian.

Caring For Fido's Pearly Whites

Dental health is a very important part of your pet's overall health, and

- broken or loose teeth
- extra teeth or retained baby teeth
- discolored teeth/covered in tartar
- abnormal chewing, drooling, or dropping food
- reduced appetite/refusal to eat
- pain in or around the mouth
- bleeding from mouth
- swelling in areas around the mouth

Causes of dental problems:

- broken teeth/roots
- periodontal disease
- abscesses or infected teeth
- oral cysts or tumors

- malocclusion, or misalignment of the teeth and bite
- broken (fractured) jaw
- palate defects (such as cleft palate)

At home oral care:

- daily or weekly brushing with a pet-safe toothpaste
- oral care foods
- oral care treats, such as Oravet

- VOHC website will have approved pet-safe treats



Canine Influenza?

Canine influenza or Dog flu is a respiratory illness caused by the canine influenza virus (CIV). The signs of Dog flu resemble canine infectious tracheobronchitis or “kennel cough”. Respiratory illness from CIV can be mild or severe with signs such as a persistent cough, nasal discharge and fever. Other signs include eye discharge,

lethargy and decreased appetite. There are many strains of CIV and CIV easily spreads from infected dogs to other dogs through direct contact, nasal secretions (like coughing and sneezing), and contaminated objects. If you think your dog is showing signs of a respiratory illness

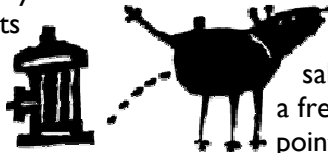
visit your vet to have your pet examined. This article contains information from “canine influenza: Pet owners guide” from the AVMA website. Further information can be found at www.avma.org.



CANINE URINE MARKING?

What is Canine Urine Marking?

Urine marking is when the canine, usually a sexually intact male, starts urinating on objects to mark “their territory.” Although it is a more typical occurrence in intact males, intact females as well as neutered males can also display this behavior. The behavior usually starts being noticed when the pet reaches sexual maturity.



Why?

When intact male dogs (the typical marker) smell an intact female in the area, they start marking to ward off any other intact males in the area. Females are more prone to mark during their heat cycle. Anxiety may also cause a canine to be in-

involved in this marking behavior. Watch for triggers if this is a new occurrence with your pet. Triggers may include: a new baby, workmen in the home, visiting relatives, or changes in your family’s schedule.

How to Know if it’s Truly Marking

We will first ask you to schedule an office visit with either Dr. Nasal or Dr. Dan and ask you to bring a fresh urine sample with. At this appointment the doctor will do a physical exam and a urinalysis. A urinalysis will require the urine sample. The doctor will look at what is in the urine at a microscopic level to rule out a urinary tract infection which may cause the random urination. If a UTI is found, the doctor will prescribe an antibiotic. If a UTI is ruled out, then they will focus on other causes

such as behavioral marking.

How Can We Stop It?

Spaying or neutering the pet may help by removing the hormonal influences of marking. It is also very important to remove any scent of urine from previously marked spots. This can be done by cleaning with a good enzymatic or bacterial cleaner. Covering the scent may cause the behavior to continue so the urine scent needs to be fully removed. If you notice that your pet is marking during stressful times, try eliminating the triggers for your pet. Keeping the pet on a routine schedule may help as well. While away, keep your canine friend in a confined area such as a crate or small enclosed area away from frequently marked areas.

Great Tips For Traveling

The key to traveling with your pet is planning! If you want a fun, hassle-free experience, do your research with these helpful tips. Pets must meet all requirements when it comes to traveling. This means they may need proof of certain vaccines, health certificates and maybe even microchips depending on where you are going.

•Choosing Transportation: whether it is by car (yours or a rental’s), bus, subway, ferry, train, cruise ship, or plane, be prepared by ensuring your pet is allowed. You will need to plan for any extra fees, required type of crates, documentation of a healthy pet, quantity limitations (more than one pet) and potty breaks.

•Make sure your pet will be welcome at your destination and

the surrounding area.

•Make the most of ID tags and microchips by ensuring your contact information is up to date and easy to read. If your pet has a worn tag replace it before travel, and if your pet has a microchip

sure it is registered with a national microchip registry. In addition to current identification, it may be helpful to keep a picture with you in print or on your phone to make finding and identifying that much easier.



•Prepare your hosts if company is expecting you. Ask your hosts if the yard is fenced or if you need to bring a tie-out cable and anchor with you. Do they have other animals or kids in the home? If you leave your destination, will you need to bring a crate along?

•Stem your pet’s anxiety if they experience any during travel that you’re already aware of. Talk with your vet about anxiety-easing medications and supplements that may ease mild fears and calm nervous travelers. Your veterinarian may want you to test out these products before your trip to see if they produce the desired effect and to fine-tune the dosage. Pet pheromones might also have a calming effect if sprayed onto the pet’s bedding area or diffused in a car or lodging facility.