



Le Sueur Office

Le Sueur Belle Plaine



Belle Plaine Office

VETERINARY CLINIC NEWS

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Heartworm Reminder

Heartworm disease is a very common disease in the Minnesota River Valley. Heartworms are spread by mosquitos. Here's how it works! A mosquito bites a dog that has heartworm disease. The mosquito takes in baby heartworms, called microfilaria. The microfilaria mature in the mosquitoes salivary glands. The mosquito bites another dog, injecting the microfilaria. The heartworm prevention kills these worms. The microfilaria mature into adult heartworms and live in the right side of the dogs heart. The adults mate and produce more and more worms, eventually filling the right side of the dogs heart causing heart failure. The worms may also fill some of the blood vessels in the lungs. A dog may have heartworm disease for years before showing signs of the disease. During these years damage is being done to the heart, lungs, kidneys and red blood cells. The signs of heartworm include coughing, lethargy, exercise intolerance and generalized weakness. Heartworm disease is 100% preventable. **Heartworm prevention** is as easy as a chewable pill once a month to prevent this deadly disease and it also kills intestinal worms. Heartworm prevention is best given year round. Yearly testing is recommended because it will detect unknown infections. Dogs may spit out the pill, owners may forget to give the pill and testing provides peace of mind.

Cats may also become infected with heartworm. The disease is perhaps more deadly for cats because one adult heartworm can kill a cat. Even indoor cats need monthly preventive. We recommend Revolution™ to prevent heartworm disease in cats.

Fleas and Ticks are Back!

Fleas and ticks are parasites. They spend their time doing two things: searching for a blood meal and reproducing. They are quite good at both. They also spread diseases such as lymes, erlichia, hemobartenella, and tapeworms. They can cause severe allergic reactions. All of these can be deadly. We recommend Frontline™ once a month for tick prevention and once every three months for flea prevention in dogs. Cats need a monthly flea and tick prevention, because they groom their coats so much. Your choice of products for cats are Frontline™ or Revolution™.

Fun Fact

Fleas have the most elastic substance known to man in their hips. This is why they can jump so far...



Litterbox Troubles

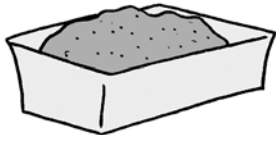
There are multiple causes for cats not to use their litterbox both for urination and defecation. The reasons may be medical or behavioral. Medical reasons include urinary tract infection, diabetes mellitus, hyperthyroidism, intestinal parasites and diarrhea.

The first step to solving litterbox problems must be a physical exam. The physical exam will determine which additional tests will be needed to determine the cause of the problem. These may include blood work, urinalysis, stool

See 'Litterbox' page 2

Litterbox continued from page 1

samples, x-rays and ultrasound. If all of the diagnostics are normal then we know it is a behavior problem.



Behavior problems may be the result of anxiety, intercat aggression, preference for a certain type of litter substrate or location

preferences. There are many treatments available for behavior litterbox problems. These include a new location for the litterbox, a new litter, antidepressants and pheromones.

It is easier to prevent litterbox problems than to correct them after they occur. Follow these simple rules:

1. One more litterbox than the number of cats. (2 cats = 3 litterboxes).
2. Litter that does not have perfume or baking soda in it.
3. A litterbox on each level of your house.
4. Litterboxes in quiet out of the way places. (i.e. not by the furnace)
5. Yearly physical exams.
6. High quality food made to promote urinary tract health.

Life with a cat will be enjoyable if these rules are followed.

"Homeagain[®]"

Homeagain[®] is a permanent identification for your pet. A microchip about the size of a grain of rice is encoded with a unique set of numbers and letters. The microchip is injected under the skin between the shoulder blades of the pet. After the microchip is placed in the pet the owners address and the veterinarians information along with the microchip code are sent to a national database computer. If your pet is lost and finds its way to a pound, humane society or veterinary clinic it will be scanned. The database will be contacted with the number of the chip. The owner or the veterinarian will be contacted and the pet will be returned to the owner. The number one cause of death for lost pets is the lack of identification. Homeagain[®] has successfully reunited over 260,000 pets with their families. For less than \$60 your pet can be permanently identified. Microchips are safe for all breeds of dogs and cats as well as puppies and kittens. For a limited time Homeagain[®] is offering a \$10.00 mail in rebate. For more information or to make an appointment to have your pet microchipped you may call either the Le Sueur or Belle Plaine clinics.

Featured dog breed . . .

Golden Retriever



Golden Retriever

The Golden Retriever is generally considered a hunting dog, however the addition of this kind spirited dog will also make a wonderful family pet. Generally possessing a character that is eager to please, the Golden Retriever is a dog with self confidence and a friendly nature. The typical weight of a retriever is between 65-75 pounds for a male and 55-65 pounds for a female. As a hunting dog the golden will be quick to please and very obedient. The same may be said for the breed as a companion or family dog. They are a very reliable, trustworthy dog that is a versatile addition to any household.

Product Spotlight

OraVet™

OraVet™ - This product is applied to your pets teeth to prevent bacteria and plaque build up. OraVet is first applied at the veterinary clinic while your pet is under anesthesia. Young animals may have it applied at the time of a spay or neuter. Any pet having a dental cleaning needs to have OraVet applied after the polishing. OraVet should be applied weekly at home after the initial professional application. Ask us today about OraVet.

Premium Tuff Lock™ Collars

Sold exclusively through veterinarians. They have an unconditional lifetime guarantee, no matter what happens. TuffLock™ will replace the collar or leash for free. They are strong. We have a variety of colors and patterns.



Gentle Leader™

The best and easiest way to train your dog. The Gentle Leader™ is a head collar developed by a veterinarian to help control strong, excitable dogs. The collar controls the dog's head not his neck. It will not choke or muzzle the dog.



Walk With the Dogs

Join us for a fun walk at the Belle Plaine BBQ Days.

We will walk with our dogs about 2K, around Belle Plaine.

Refreshments and prizes after the walk at our Belle Plaine Hospital.

The walk will be Saturday morning, July 15th, during BBQ Days.



Rabies

It's spring time! That means the skunks and bats are out. A skunk out during the day should alarm you. It may be infected with rabies. Bats and skunks are our reservoir for rabies virus in Minnesota. Rabies is 100% fatal in humans and animals. Rabies vaccination prevents the deadly disease and is available for dogs, cats, and ferrets. If your pet is exposed to a skunk or a bat they need to be boosted on the rabies vaccine. Some signs of rabies are unusual aggression or lethargy. Another sign may be seizures. Please call if you have any questions regarding rabies.

Goodbye Tache

Due to an unfortunate accident, Tache passed away on March 13th. For those of you that didn't know Tache, she was one of our calico clinic cats in Le Sueur. She came to us as a kitten in 1996 and we just fell in love with her playful personality. We would sometimes call her the "Queen" of the veterinary clinic because she usually made it quite clear when she didn't want someone in her personal space. We all loved Tache very much and she will forever be missed.



LE SUEUR VETERINARY SERVICES

700 North Main St., Le Sueur, MN 56058

COMPANION ANIMALS AND PETS, BOARDING AND GROOMING

507-665-2377 or 1-800-439-2376

Hours: Mon., Wed., Thurs., Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Tues. 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Drop Off/Pick Up Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

BELLE PLAINE ANIMAL HOSPITAL

304 S. Ash St., Belle Plaine, MN 56011

COMPANION ANIMALS AND PETS

952-873-VETS (8387)

Hours: Mon., Tues., Wed., Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Thurs. 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.;

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - Noon (Saturday hours for Urgent Care and Dispensing)

Drop Off/Pick Up Hours: 7:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.; Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.; Friday Close at 5:00 p.m.

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