



Breed of the month

Boxer



This athletic looking dog is a family favorite. The Boxer was first recognized into the AKC in 1904 as a member of the working group. It was developed in Germany, but it can trace its ancestors back to different parts of Europe from as far back as the 16th century. Originally created to be a large game hunter, guard and a companion dog, it was also used for dog fighting where it got its name from its tendency to use its front legs to "box" its opponent. They were imported to America after World War I where they were used as couriers on the battle field. Today the Boxer is as playful as it is dignified, and loves being a family dog. Smart and active, this breed needs lots of exercise and training to keep it happy. Its short coat requires little grooming. Its tail is usually docked after birth, and its ears can be cropped or left natural. As wonderful as the boxer is, it can be prone to serious health issues. Boxers are one of the top breeds for cancer, and are also prone to some serious heart issues that can cause sudden death at any age. If you would like more information on life with a boxer, just ask Loretta the vet tech who owns one!

Client Questions:

What do I do with unused or expired medications for my pet?



Chances are you have had to give medications to your pet for various reasons. Since this is not always a fun experience, many drugs go unused and may sit around your house or just be thrown out. Throwing them out, especially narcotics/pain meds can lead to them ending up in the wrong hands. Flushing them down the toilet is also not an acceptable option, as septic systems and sewer treatment plants are not set up to handle drugs so they can end up in our ground water and surface water. Medications can be taken to local drop boxes at these locations: Thurston County Sheriff's Prescription Drop Box on 2000 Lakeridge Drive SW Olympia, the Lacey Police Department at 402 College Street, Lacey, and Group Health at 700 Lilly Rd, Olympia. You can also visit www.WhereDoITakeMy.org and look under medications.

Have a question you would like to see answered in the newsletter? Please submit your question in writing to our Comments Box!

Pet of the Month

Attention established clients! Enter your favorite photo of your pet for our "pet of the month" contest. Each month the staff will vote for the best picture, and that month's winner will win one bag of lean treats and have its photo featured in our newsletter! Just submit your photo with a brief description of your pet to the front desk.

Rules: Please one photo per pet, contest open to pets who have been seen here for an exam within the last year.



"Jett" is a happy and energetic Border Collie owned by receptionist Christine Thoman. In this photo he is showing off what border collie's do best, herd sheep! When he's not herding other animals, he enjoys agility and long walks with his owner.

**Mountain View
Veterinary Hospital
4620 Whitman Ln SE
Lacey, WA
(360) 438-9623**

www.mountainviewvet.com



Canine Parvovirus



Canine Parvovirus, also called parvo, is a very contagious and often fatal viral disease in dogs. The parvo virus attacks the intestinal tract lining causing the cells to slough, creating the potential for secondary bacterial infection and the inability to absorb nutrients. Parvo is easily spread between dogs as the virus is shed in their feces. It can also live in the environment for months, even years in the right conditions, and is resistant to many disinfectants. Dogs and puppies of any age can get parvo; however, young unvaccinated dogs are at the greatest risk. Certain breeds such as rottweilers, pit bulls and German shepherds can sometimes be more prone to getting parvo, although it is not clear why. Symptoms of parvo can include: diarrhea, vomiting, lethargy, fever, and loss of appetite. There is no cure for parvo; however, early treatment to treat the symptoms is the best chance for a dog to survive parvo. Hospitalization for IV fluid therapy to combat dehydration is very important; antibiotics and anti-nausea drugs along with other treatments may be necessary. Preventing parvo includes being sure your puppy finishes its full vaccine series with its veterinarian and reducing its exposure to places where it may be exposed to the resilient parvo virus until fully vaccinated.

Spring Safety Tips

Spring is here and with it comes gorgeous plants and flowers all over our parks, gardens and homes. While these plants may be beautiful, they can be dangerous, even deadly, to our cats and dogs. With Easter starting off the spring season, a common household plant associated with this holiday is the Easter Lily. Lilies of any type are toxic to cats; however, they do not seem to have the same toxic effect in dogs or people. Cats that ingest even a small amount of this plant can get severe kidney damage. Amaryllis is a bulb type plant that is often seen in gardens and houses during early spring. This plant can cause vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, anorexia and tremors if ingested. Tulips and daffodils have toxins in the bulb portion of the plant that can cause GI upset, depression of the central nervous system, convulsions and cardiac abnormalities. While crocuses are also bulbs, only the Autumn Crocus is considered toxic, causing bloody vomiting, shock and multi-organ damage and bone marrow suppression.

Easter also means Easter baskets filled with chocolates and other goodies! Be sure to keep these yummy treats out of your pet's reach, as chocolate can be toxic to dogs, and many sugar-free treats can contain xylitol which can also be toxic to pets. Spring time may also bring up many allergy issues for pets with environmental allergies. Certain weeds, trees and other pollens will be in full gear soon and your pet may need some help controlling the itching these allergens may bring!



MVVH News

Chances are you or someone you know uses a social networking site such as Facebook to keep in touch with friends and stay up to speed with organizations you like. Well, MVVH is on the way to joining the internet crowd by creating a Facebook page! While it is still in the beginning stages, you can "like" our page through our website to keep up on MVVH life and news. We plan on using this page to post links to groups and events we support, along with tips and info to help you take care of your pet. So be one of the first to "like" us on Facebook to see what's in store once our page gets rolling!

Favorite Quotes

"There is no faith which has never yet been broken, except that of a truly faithful dog."
~Konrad Lorenz