



PET GAZETTE



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2008 EDITION

It's Heartworm and Flea Control Reminder Time



Now that all of the snow has melted and the winter storms of 2008 are behind us, it's time to think about protecting your pet from the parasites that are going to be emerging in the environment very shortly. Heartworm and flea season is fast approaching and we are reminding you to have your dog tested for any previous mosquito exposure with a simple blood test. Every year we see hundreds of primarily indoor dogs or cats affected with painful and itchy flea allergy skin disease, and owners are always surprised to discover that their pets have fleas.



We always have used the analogy that we don't invite spiders or flies into our houses, but every household will have these pesky creatures at certain times of year. Fleas and mosquitos have adapted for survival over millions of years and can survive quite well indoors. Therefore, heartworm, flea, and intestinal parasite prevention and control is recommended for all dogs and cats even if they remain mostly indoors.

Although heartworm disease (spread by biting mosquitos) is not as common as some other diseases, numerous cases are still seen every year in Niagara. We still do not recommend heartworm testing for cats at this time, but yearly heartworm testing is highly recommended for dogs by all experts studying heartworm disease. Fleas are extremely common and can cause quite severe skin disease, as noted in the photo. Numerous older types of flea control have been well documented to be ineffective, while the newer generation of flea control products such as Advantage and Revolution continue to be the best products available to keep your pet flea free. Revolution also helps to prevent heartworm disease and some intestinal parasites. We recommend the heartworm and flea prevention from June 1, 2008 to November 1, 2008. Year round prevention is recommended if you travel with your pet to the southern USA for the winter. Feel free to contact our office to help find a product that will best fit your pet's individual needs.



Morgan Animal Hospital is Pleased to Announce the Addition of 2 New Veterinarians

Unfortunately Dr. Jennifer Wilson is no longer with us and has returned to a practice closer to her home. However, we are pleased to announce that Dr. Danielle Anderson, who joined our practice over a year ago, is expecting her second child in June and will be on maternity leave for a year. Dr. Todd Morgan and his wife are also expecting their second child in April and he hopes to take couple of weeks off with his family at that time.



Dr. Rachel Thomas has recently joined our staff and brings a great deal of enthusiasm and knowledge to the practice. Dr. Thomas graduated from Glasgow University Veterinary School in Scotland in 1997.

She practiced in Scotland, Newfoundland, and Barrie, Ontario before moving back to the Niagara Region where she was raised.

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Dr. Christopher Tummons joined our staff in January 2008 and offers his experience and compassion to our practice. Dr. Tummons graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College in 2002.

He is seen here using the new Tonovet Tonometer on this dog to check the internal fluid pressures in the eye.



Both Dr. Thomas and Dr. Tummons have enjoyed meeting our wonderful clients so far and are looking forward to meeting you and your special pet. We wish Dr. Anderson all the best this year and we will all be looking forward to her return in 2009.

New Cutting Edge Technology To Diagnose Severe Eye Diseases

We are very excited to announce the recent purchase of a Tonovet Tonometer which allows us to quickly and accurately diagnose potentially severe eye diseases in both cats and dogs. This very basic looking instrument is actually extremely high tech and takes rapid precise measurements of the fluid pressures inside the eye.



The Tonometer takes the measurements safely and pain free with the vast majority of animals not even knowing that anything happened. The instruments used in the past were very poor in measuring subtle changes to pressures in the eye, while the Tonovet Tonometer allows us to diagnose diseases such as Glaucoma and Uveitis in the early stages with amazing ease and confidence.

The Farley Foundation Fundraiser and Open House

All the staff at Morgan Animal Hospital worked very hard in December 2007 during our "Open House".



We were able to raise over \$700 for The Farley Foundation which is a charity run by the OVMA to fund pet care for low income seniors and individuals on disability.

Fundraising events included "Pet Pictures with Santa" (actually Todd Morgan), a bake sale, and prize raffles.

Staff, owners, and pets also had a great time enjoying refreshments and clinic tours for a worthy cause.



New Morgan Animal Hospital Website

We are in the process of developing a new website. The new website is full of information about the hospital and our staff, animal related health topics, previous newsletters, and detailed information on current animal related issues in the news. There is also a section for photos of your pets if you would like to have your lovable furry friend on our site.

Our older website morgan.fovvet.ca is still in operation but our new website morgananimalhospital.com is now up and running and will be complete in the next couple of weeks. Feel free to explore our site and we welcome any comments to make the website as useful to our clients as possible.