



## It is Heartworm and Flea Reminder Time

Yes, it is unfortunately true. As spring and summer approaches so do the mosquitoes, fleas, ticks, and other parasites. This is your official reminder to bring your dog in for a simple blood test to detect any exposure to any mosquitoes carrying Heartworm disease from last year. Every year numerous dogs die from this easily preventable disease. Heartworm disease is still quite rare in cats; however fleas are very common in both dogs and cats (even indoor ones), as are intestinal parasites.

Heartworm and flea prevention should start June 1, 2010 and continue for 6 months until November 1, 2010. There are a number of safe and effective products available to help keep your pet parasite free this summer; these include Revolution, Sentinel, and Advantage Multi amongst others. The options can be confusing and every dog or cat has a different amount of exposure to these parasites. Some products offer heartworm OR flea control, while others provide full prevention from heartworm, fleas, ticks, mange, and intestinal parasites (e.g. Revolution). Feel free to give our office a call to find out which product is ideal for your pet. You can also access information about all of our products and their companies on our website at [morgananimalhospital.com](http://morgananimalhospital.com), just click on the "Links" tab on our main page.



## Comfortis



There have not been many new products in Canada for flea control over the last few years, until now. **Comfortis** was released in Canada this spring but has been used extensively in the USA for years. Unfortunately it is licensed for dogs only, but it is the first beef flavoured chewable tablet that begins to kill fleas within 30 minutes, it kills 100% of fleas within 4 hours of administration and lasts for 1 month. Due to the rapid action, it also prevents eggs from being laid in the environment. Sentinel is

another chewable heartworm and flea control. It is a fantastic option for preventing heartworm disease and some intestinal parasites, however it only prevents adult fleas from laying viable eggs, while the adult will still live on the pet and cause irritation. Advantage and Revolution are also excellent flea control products and are applied topically. Some people prefer the ease of topical products while others prefer tablets. The benefits of **Comfortis** are the rapid onset of action, no mess on the skin, and swimming or bathing will not reduce its efficacy unlike some topical products. It is safe for puppies over 14 weeks of age and although side effects are very rare, the most common one is vomiting. It is also not recommended for any dogs that have a history of epilepsy. Feel free to find out more about this exciting product at [comfortis4dogs.com](http://comfortis4dogs.com).



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# Welcome Melissa Lendrum

Melissa joined our team at the end of October 2009. She has joined us from up north where she worked as a Veterinary Assistant at Espanola Animal Hospital prior to moving down to Niagara and brings a lot of valuable experience. Melissa loves spending time with her family and pets and is seen here with her daughter Kaitlyn and 2 dogs Jake and Carter.



## The Farley Foundation Fundraiser



All of our staff worked incredibly hard in October 2009 as we raised money for this very worthy cause. During the month of October we held a silent auction with fantastic items such as tickets to "The Jersey Boys" in Toronto, Hamilton Tiger Cats tickets, gift certificates to local restaurants, movie packages, a DVD player package, and of course pet packages. We were able to raise just over \$1000 for The Farley Foundation and we would like to "Thank" everyone who donated auction items and everyone who placed bids at our silent auction.

The Farley Foundation is a registered charity that was established in 2001 by the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA) and "For Better or For Worse" comic strip creator Lynn Johnston. The charity assists seniors and disabled persons on limited incomes with necessary veterinary treatments for their pets. In 2007, the Foundation expanded its criteria to assist the pets of women at risk of abuse (and their children) who are participating in OVMA's SafePet Program. The Farley Foundation honours the human-animal bond and seeks to help those who most benefit from pet ownership. Feel free to find out more about the Farley Foundation from their website at [www.farleyfoundation.org](http://www.farleyfoundation.org).



[morgananimalhospital.com](http://morgananimalhospital.com)

Have you had a chance to check out our website? It is full of information about us and your pet. Our site contains hundreds of articles on pet health issues and medical conditions under the "Pet Health" section. There are also a number of new videos about medical conditions and routine care such as vaccines, nutrition, heartworm and flea control, spaying and neutering, and even how to take care of your pet after surgery. We hope you enjoy our website and invite any feedback, comments to make the website as useful to our clients as possible.

