

Capitol Illini Newsletter

Fall 2009

Volume 5, Issue 3

Halloween safety for your pet

Halloween is just around the corner. Here are some quick tips to keep your pets safe:

⚠️ Chocolate can be deadly to your pet if they get into it.

Foil/cellophane wrappers can also be harmful.

⚠️ Some pets can scare easily and run off. So

be careful around trick-or-treaters & open doors.

⚠️ Watch your pets around lit candles and jack-o-lanterns. Their tails can catch fire very

easily. They can cause a fire at your home if it gets knocked over.

⚠️ If your pet is dressed up, make sure they can see well.



*Remember we always have a Halloween costume contest for our patients. So don't forget to bring in your pet(s) in their costume.



Money Saving Tips for you and your Pets

There are many ways to save money on your pet. Buying the pet food in bulk can save money in the long run.

Make sure you keep your pets up to date on their vaccines. Keep them on heartworm /flea preventatives. It's much more cost efficient to prevent diseases than to treat them.

Creating your own pet toys can also save money.

For dogs: use empty, open soda bottles filled



with food. For cats: Try the plastic rings from the milk jugs. Of course, you always want to supervise your pets with new toys.

Source: Paw Prints Newsletter Spring Summer 2009

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The Standard of

This accreditation shows that we are among the group of elite veterinary clinics providing the highest standards of quality care and services for your pet(s).
www.aahanet.org

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Cranial Cruciate Ligament Disease of canines

The cranial cruciate ligament (CCL) is a rope like structure that prevents slipping of the two bones of the knee. Its job is to keep the bones aligned during regular daily activity.

Signs of injury include: limping, holding hindlimb up,

sitting with leg stuck out to side, swelling/pain when touching the joint, and clicking sound when walking.

Dr. Wright is our orthopedic surgeon who performs the corrective surgery for this disease.

He uses a technique



called *Tight Rope*, shown above.

This procedure does not require cutting of the bone, like other techniques.

Did You Know???

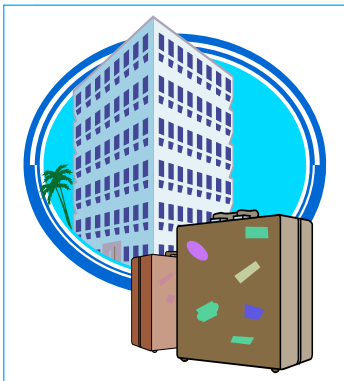
Have you ever heard of *Pet Airways*? It is a new airline just for your pets. So no more riding with the cargo.



Cities included are NYC, Washington DC, Chicago, Denver, and LA. Prices start at \$149.

Source: NAVC Clinician's Brief, May 2009

Pet friendly Hotels and Accommodations



The key is to plan in advance. There are a lot of pet-friendly hotels/motels. Most places require a security deposit.

If nothing is chewed up or piddled on, a lot of places refund the deposit. Although some places have a non-refundable deposit, so always check.

Some places also have a limit on how many pets per room or have a weight limit for our furry friends to stay. That is why it is the key to call ahead.

There are a few websites to check out if you're planning on staying in a hotel. Some include:

www.pettravel.com,
www.petswelcome.com,

www.doginmysuitcase.com.

That's only a few.

Some hotels also have menus for pets, and dog walking services.



Source: PawPrints Newsletter Spring/Summer 2009

Comfortis (*Spinosad*)

Comfortis is a monthly chewable flea preventative for dogs. Since it is chewable, you don't have to worry about it rubbing off the skin.

Comfortis starts killing fleas within 30 minutes. Also kills the fleas before they can lay eggs.



Comfortis does not control ticks. This is safe for puppies 14 weeks and older.



Fun Pet Facts

* Studies show that people with pets have less health problems, less stress, and live a longer life.

* 94% of pet owners say their pets make them smile more than once a day.

* Dogs are not color blind. They can tell the difference between blue, yellow, and grey.

(Source: American Pet Product Manufacturers Association),

Source: www.i-pets.com

Getting Your Cat to the Vet

It is advisable to get a carrier to bring your cat to the vet. A good way to carrier train your cat is to leave it out and put treats in it to make it more exciting to enter.



It is easiest for you and your cat if the carrier has an opening in the top or

the top is removable.

For the car ride to the vet make sure the carrier is secure. To adjust your cat to car rides, take them on short car rides.

Cats travel best on an empty stomach. After each successful trip, reward them after getting back home.

To make them comfortable at the vet bring their favorite toy or treat. While at home



you can practice a veterinary exam on your cat by trimming their nails, playing with their feet, ears and tail.

Learning to Love Again

Kyra Sedgwick and Kevin Bacon took their two children to a shelter in New Orleans to help the animals from Hurricane Katrina, instead of going on a vacation.

She says "a pet can really teach you about being in a relationship and giving and

receiving love...".



"They also teach you about sharing space and giving back..." says Sedgwick. That is a lesson she and Bacon would like to instill in

their children.

She has 2 adopted animals herself. A cat, Laura and a Labrador Retriever, Paulie.

Sedgwick is helping promote animal shelter adoptions with support from Hill's Science Diet.

Source: PawPrints Newsletter Spring/ Summer 2009

Top Pet names of 2008:



DOGS:

1. Max
2. Bailey
3. Bella
4. Molly
5. Lucy
6. Buddy
7. Maggie
8. Daisy
9. Sophie
10. Chloe

CATS:

1. Max
2. Chloe
3. Tigger
4. Tiger
5. Lucy
6. Smokey
7. Oliver
8. Bella
9. Shadow
10. Charlie

Source: www.MSNBC.com

Connie Werts, CVT



Connie joined our team in August of 2003. She obtained her degree in Veterinary Technology from St. Petersburg College in Florida.

Connie was born and raised in

Springfield. She enjoys a number of outdoor sports as well as routine yard work and gardening with her husband, Marc and beautiful step-daughter, Maggie.