

MCLEOD



VETERINARY HOSPITAL



July 2010

Hospital Hours

Mon – Thurs	8 am – 6:30 pm
Friday	8 am – 6:00 pm
Saturday	9 am – 1:00 pm
Sunday	Closed

Fun Facts!

- Reindeer like to eat bananas.
- Goat's eyes have rectangular pupils.
- Many hamsters only blink one eye at a time.



www.mcleodvet.com

We have launched our new website! It is filled with useful information and links to other sites you might be interested in. Back issues of our newsletter are available for viewing. You will also have the opportunity to meet our staff.

McLeod Veterinary Hospital
880 McLeod Avenue
Winnipeg MB R2G 2T7
Ph: (204)661-3334
Email: mcleodvh@mts.net
Web: www.mcleodvet.com

Safety Tips for Lake Lovers

Summer is here and with it comes cottage season. We often like to bring our dogs with us. The lake is a fun place to visit, but it can also be dangerous. We have put together a few safety tips for your furry friends.

Keep your dog on a leash or keep an eye on them at all times. Other animals may also be at the lake.

Keep a standard first aid kit available. Our staff can provide you with a first aid booklet that contains first aid information and a complete first aid kit supply list. Items to keep handy when near the water include towels, a bowl and fresh water. If at all possible don't let your dog drink the lake water; it contains all sorts of bacteria and parasites that could make your dog sick.

Look for signs of heat exhaustion such as heavier than normal panting, difficulty breathing, dizziness, weakness, warm dry skin, and/or red flushed skin on the inside of your dogs ears. Refer to our first aid kit booklet for first aid tips with heat exhaustion (hyperthermia) in your dog. The best treatment is prevention. Keep your dog hydrated and don't let them overwork themselves. Provide a shaded place for them to rest.

Keep an eye on your dog's feet. Hot sand, rocks, glass, and other things found on the lake shore can hurt them.

Rinse the lake water off of your dog after a day of fun at the beach. The dirty water can cause irritation to their skin. Consider using an ear cleansing solution after swimming. This will help flush out any sand or other debris as well as any dirty lake water left in the ear.

Enjoy your summer while being mindful of safety for yourself, your family and your dog!

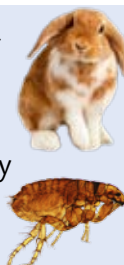


Tidbits

We are happy to inform you that we will be launching a new development for our tooth trimming protocol to better ensure your rabbit friend is receiving the best possible care!

Summer is a very busy time for everyone. Remember to give your pet their monthly heartworm, flea and tick protection medications.

We can send your pet's annual reminder by email.





Pet of the Month

Meet Kobe

He is a five month old Australian Shepherd owned by the Rewucki Family.

McLeod Veterinary Hospital Staff Members

Veterinarians

Dr. Robert Newfield
Dr. Alison Bowles
Dr. Jason Kellsey
Dr. Angela Coleman-Wiebe

Animal Health Technologists

Barbe Parke
Cindy Sontag
Kim Nakamura
Amy Weir
Joëlle Tétreault

Receptionists

Martina Korne
Brittini Jensen
Kelly Zelinsky
Carissa Shaw

Veterinary Assistants

Rees Buck
Jennifer Loewen
Laura Tschetter

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It's time to change their future

Almost 50% of the pet population is overweight. Even a little extra weight can lead to serious health problems. Extra weight reduces play time, impacts mobility and affects the general health of your dog or cat. Factors contributing to weight gain include age, lack of exercise and overfeeding.

Many commercial pet foods are loaded with salt and fat, which improve the taste but also have dramatic effects on your dog's weight and overall health. Along with frequent physical exercise, choosing the right food plays a very important role in helping dogs reach their proper weight.

Hill's Prescription Diet r/d is the only clinically proven diet to reduce dogs' body fat by 22% in two months. The diet has also been clinically proven to promote healthy triglycerides and cholesterol. It is specially formulated to satisfy your dog's hunger during the weight loss process. The unique combination of nutrients modifies your dog's metabolism from fat storing to fat burning.

Please feel free to talk to one of our staff regarding a weight loss plan for your pet.

Summer Precautions

- Never leave your pet in a parked vehicle.
- It is dangerous and illegal to drive with a dog in the back of a truck.
- Antifreeze is very toxic for your pet. Clean up any antifreeze spills immediately and keep your pet away from parking areas. Many pets like the sweet taste of antifreeze.
- Don't let your pet stick its head out of the vehicle's window when travelling as dangerous debris could fly into their eyes and cause a scratch.
- Your pet can get sunburned too. If your pet is susceptible to sunburn, apply sun block to its nose and the tips of its ears.
- Pets can be allergic to bee or wasp stings or other insect venom. Watch for signs of an allergic reaction and be prepared by having an antihistamine on hand.
- Keep your pet away from poisonous plants and flowers.
- Flea and tick products can be dangerous – use only veterinary recommended products and follow the instructions carefully.
- Fireworks for holidays are fun for people, but the loud strange noises may not be much fun for your pet. Keep your pet safely inside during the festivities and turn on the radio to help drown out the noise and calm your pet.

Hot Spots

A hot spot is a localized area of skin inflammation and infection. These common skin lesions are usually caused and/or made worse by biting, licking, or scratching. Redness, oozing, pain, and itchiness are typical signs. Hair loss is also commonly present. Sometimes hair can mat over the lesion, hiding the size and degree of the problem. These lesions can appear suddenly, and grow very rapidly. It is common for an owner to notice a small area of inflamed skin in the morning and come home from work to be met with an area two or even three times the size. The dog is usually highly agitated, and will not leave the area alone. Some dogs will even growl or snap if the area is touched.

Hot spots can be caused by anything that creates irritation to the skin, causing the pet to chew or scratch at the site. Insect bites, allergies, excess moisture on the skin, heavy hair coats, matted hair just to name a few. Hot spots are not contagious to other dogs nor to people.

The treatment for hot spots is very simple. The hair surrounding the area will be clipped away. The area will be cleaned with an antibacterial soap and a topical treatment applied. Depending on the severity of the lesion your dog may require some anesthesia and/or oral antibiotic therapy. Your dog may also require an Elizabethan collar to prevent further licking and chewing at the area. It is reassuring to know that with treatment hot spots usually clear up quite quickly.

Some pets may get one or two hot spots and then never get another one again, while other pets may have frequent recurrences.