



2455 W. Stadium Blvd.

Ann Arbor, MI 48103

(734) 996-9311

westgate@westgateac.com

# WESTGATE ANIMAL CLINIC NEWS

Westgate Animal Clinic Newsletter

February 2016

## What's New at Westgate Animal Clinic

We are grateful to our clients for trusting us with the care of your furry family members. This new year brings some exciting new improvements to our clinic. Come see us and check out what's new.

- New full-time, experienced veterinarian
- New cat friendly exam room exclusively for our feline patients
- New technology: from reception through pet care areas we are updating equipment for improved care
- New look: new paint and décor to welcome you

### In This Issue...

- February is Pet Dental Health Month!
- What is a "cat friendly practice"?
- Warnings about Valentine's Day dangers to your pets
- Ways to protect your pet if they get lost

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Andrea Moehlman has joined our family at Westgate Animal Clinic. Dr. Moehlman is a graduate of the Michigan State University School of Veterinary Medicine with over 25 years of experience in small animal and emergency medicine. She enjoys working in the clinic environment where she can build long term client relationships.



Dr. Andrea Moehlman, DVM

Dr. Noble is available on a part time basis so if an appointment with her is your preference please let us know when you call to schedule.

Client feedback is important to us and we would love to hear from you. Contact us any time by phone, email, visit our Facebook page or stop by the clinic. Your referrals are the greatest compliment—tell your friends about us!

*"My goal is to have a practice that provides compassionate, advanced care and outstanding customer service in a warm, welcoming environment"*

*- Dr. Andrea Moehlman, DVM*

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## Save \$30 on Dental Cleaning in February!

During the month of February, receive \$30 off the regular price for your pet's dental prophylaxis. If your pet is overdue for this important preventative health procedure take advantage of this offer. Your pet will thank you with fresher breath and better overall health.

## February is... Pet Dental Health Month

### Why is Dental Health Important?

Just like you, your pet's dental health is important to their overall health. Poor dental health can lead to heart disease and kidney disease.

### Signs of Dental Disease?

Can you believe that more than 75% of pets have some level of dental disease by the age of three. Here's what to look for:

- Bad breath
- Build up of tartar on tooth surfaces
- Red, sore, and inflamed gums
- Broken or missing teeth
- Pain or bleeding in mouth while eating
- Mouth sensitivity

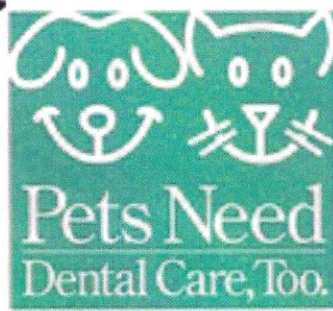
If you notice any of these symptoms in your pet please schedule a free dental consultation with our technician. Find out if a dental cleaning is needed, don't let it grow into a larger health issue for your pet.

### What can I do to help?

There are several ways pet owners can help maintain good dental health.

- Brush your pet's teeth at home with special dog/cat formulated toothpaste
- Provide dental treats to your pet to help remove food and plaque
- Treat your fur-baby to regular dental cleanings. It's the best prevention!

February is National Pet Dental Health Month





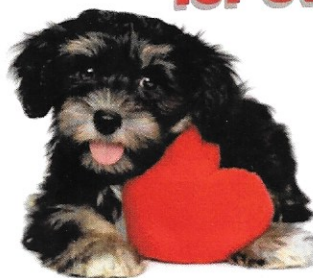
## Cat Friendly Practice -

### What Does That Mean?

Most importantly a cat friendly practice means a better overall experience for your cat. The AAFP (American Association of Feline Practitioners) has developed a program to help make visits to the doctor less stressful for cats. Who doesn't want that for their cat? At Westgate Animal Clinic, we are making our practice a cat friendly practice by reserving exam room #3 exclusively for cats. Inside exam room #3 our patients find a cuddly blanket on the exam table and no dog scent to frighten or stress them. The room has a diffuser releasing pheromones into the air similar in composition to the chemicals produced by a mother cat to soothe her kittens. When it is time for vaccinations, we use smaller needles to reduce discomfort.

Don't worry if you are a dog owner! We have a strict no discrimination policy at Westgate Animal Clinic. We use smaller needles and cuddly blankets for our canine patient's comfort as well, but that happens in exam rooms #1 and #2.

## Make It a Happy Valentine's Day for everyone



Don't let the love and sweetness of Valentine's Day pose a health risk to your beloved pets. Did you know some very common holiday gifts can be toxic to our furry friends?

- Chocolate contains caffeine and theobromine both of which are toxic to pets in high enough quantity
- Sugars and fats in Valentine's Day sweets can lead to pancreatitis, an inflammation of the pancreas that can cause vomiting, diarrhea, and dehydration
- All varieties of lilies and all parts of the plant are toxic to cats. Even chewing the leaves or licking the pollen can lead to kidney failure and death within days

If you suspect your pet has been exposed to any harmful food, plant or household item, don't hesitate to call us, or if after hours, an emergency 24 hour care facility. Swift and aggressive treatment is important.

For links to more info on toxic household items please visit the ASPCA website at <https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control>.

### Like us on Facebook!

Stay up to date with us on...

- Lost or found pets reported to us
- Recall alerts regarding pet food or treats
- Special events at the clinic or in the community
- Educational articles for pet owners
- Information on changes in hours at the clinic like delays due to weather or emergency
- Discounts on products or services... like this month's \$30 savings on Dental Cleaning!!!





## Lost Pet Heartbreak



Each year 7.6 million animals are brought to shelters. The heartbreaking fact is that only about 26% of lost dogs are returned home and for cats that number is only about 5%. How can you increase your odds of being reunited should your pet ever become lost?

- Microchip your pet and keep your contact information up to date
- Have your pet wear a collar with ID at all times
- Keep recent photos of your pet available to share with others
- Contact all veterinary clinics, shelters, groomers, local animal control and police should your pet become lost
- Contact everyone you know ,especially neighbors—leave flyers with basic information about your pet and contact info
- Use social media like Facebook to spread the word...it helps

The Kitty Convict Project has begun a movement to help identify lost cats. If you have an indoor cat put an orange collar on them so if they escape it is clear to people that your cat is an escapee. Be sure the collar has your contact info.

Westgate Animal Clinic...Call us...We care!

### Contact Us

(734) 996-9311

Email:

[westgate@westgateac.com](mailto:westgate@westgateac.com)

Website:

[www.westgate.vetstreet.com](http://www.westgate.vetstreet.com)

**DO YOU HAVE AN  
INDOOR CAT?**



**PUT AN ORANGE COLLAR ON THEM,  
SO OTHERS KNOW WHEN THEY'VE ESCAPED.**

REMEMBER, AN ORANGE COLLAR = ESCAPED CONVICT.

[WWW.KITTYCONVICT.COM](http://WWW.KITTYCONVICT.COM)

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