

Westgate Animal Clinic



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SUMMER NEWSLETTER



Make sure your
pets are up to
date with
vaccinations and
preventative
medication!



From left: Cat grass, Geranium, Catnip, Sunflower, Valerian

The Cat Lovers' Garden

Summer is on its way and planting season is here! There are many plants that may not be suitable for your cat and a number of plants that can be toxic to your cat. With this guide, you'll be able to have a pet-friendly garden that you and your cat will love.

Catnip (*Nepeta cataria*) - Found to be highly attractive for cats and all parts of the plant are safe for your cat to chew, lick, and roll on. Catnip also attracts butterflies, repels mosquitoes, and blooms pink and white flowers all summer long.

Cat grass - A mixture of grasses, including oat, wheat, barley or rye, that are safe for your cat to nibble on.

Other plants safe for your feline friends include valerian, asters, scented geraniums, blue mist shrub, sunflowers, cosmos, zinnias, pansies, roses, cucumbers, squash, and pumpkins.

CAUTION: DANGEROUS PLANTS

- Lilies
- Oleander
- Daffodils
- Rhododendrons
- Daphne
- Aloe Vera
- Poppies
- Tomatoes
- Potatoes
- Morning Glory

If you think your pet may have ingested a poisonous substance contact us at Westgate Animal Clinic right away or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center 24-Hour Emergency Hotline at 1-888-426-4435.

Tips for Cleaning Your Dog's Ears

Dogs can accumulate water within their ear after swimming due to the L-shaped structure. This moisture creates a favorable environment for yeast or bacteria to grow, which can develop into an ear infection.

An ear infection can cause:

- Itchy ears
- Visible yellow, brown, or black debris
- Inflammation of the ear
- Pain at touch
- Head shaking
- Scaly skin in the ear
- Unpleasant odor

Inspect and clean your dog's ears regularly, once a week or after getting out of the water.

Make ear cleaning a more positive experience by giving a treat or extra petting to reinforce good behavior and cooperation.

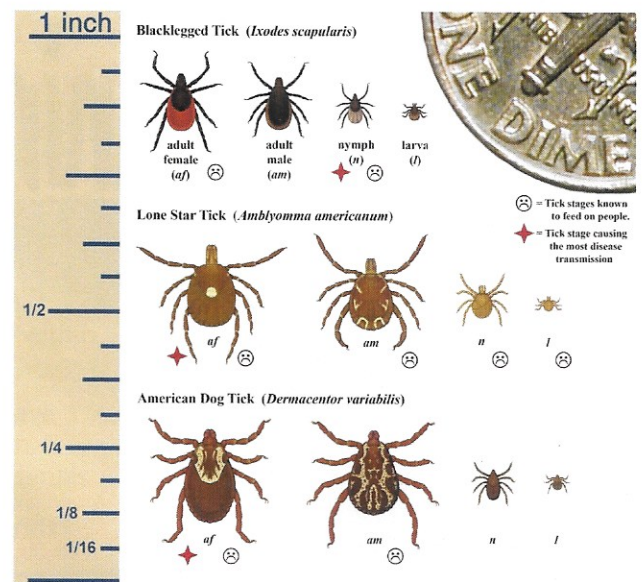
- Wet a cotton ball or piece of gauze with dog ear cleaner so that is damp but not dripping
- Gently swab the inside of your dog's ear. Remove all dirt and debris you can see.
- Also clean the crevices as dirt and wax can build up in those areas.
- Let your dog shake his or her head after cleaning. This will help clear excess fluid.
- Wipe the ears with another dry cotton ball or piece of gauze.

Call us at Westgate if you think your pet's ears may be infected or with any questions!

How to Detect Fleas and Ticks

Fleas have a flat body and are slender down the length of their back and they look like dark moving spots. Fleas can jump approximately 13 inches long—catching a flea is not an easy task! If you are unable to see a flea crawling through your pet's fur, check for other signs of their presence. Fleas are often detected by little black specks that they leave on your pet's fur, which is flea feces. They also lay eggs in the animal's fur, which look like tiny white balls. Fleas can cause an animal's fur to become dry and irritated, resulting in hot spots, scabby skin, or hair loss. The easiest way to know if your pet has fleas is by their reaction to the symptoms. Constantly biting or scratching their skin is a good indication that your pet may have fleas.

Ticks are dark insects with round, flat bodies and tiny heads. Their legs are near the front of their bodies to help burrow their heads into an animal's skin. Ticks are much easier to spot than fleas and can typically be found around the neck, head, ears or eyes of an animal. Ticks can be felt through the fur of a dog or cat by running your hand over the pet's body. Ticks will become larger and lighter in color as they fill with blood. Ticks can carry diseases that can cause loss of appetite, joint pain, or fever—and can be deadly for pets.



Even Your Feline Friends are Vulnerable to Fleas and Ticks

- Cats are just as prone to fleas and ticks as their canine counterparts
- Fleas are the most common of all external feline parasites
- Flea infestation is terribly uncomfortable for your cat and can cause deadly diseases
- Cats can host thousands of fleas without showing significant signs, besides persistent scratching
- Cats are most commonly bitten on the back of the neck and the tip of the tail- the areas they cannot groom
- When a cat begins to scratch, they can get severe skin lesions quickly form their sharp claws
- **Be Careful!** Dog flea prevention applied to the skin can be toxic or deadly for cats. Do not apply dog products to cats and keep cats separated from dogs treated with permethrin for at least 24 hours

Have you seen the TV show
Monsters Inside Me?

Westgate Animal Clinic
carries these products
to help prevent "little" monsters
from attacking your pet!

Transmittable Diseases

Ticks

- Lyme Disease
- Rocky Mountain spotted fever
- Ehrlichiosis
- Hepatozoonosis

Fleas

- Bartonellosis
- Tularaemia
- Tapeworm infestations

Mosquitoes

- Heartworm disease

Protect Your Pets with Heartworm, Flea, and Tick Preventatives

	Heartgard	Trifexis	Sentinel Flavor Tab	Sentinel Spectrum	Effitix	Parastar Plus	Frontline Plus	Bravecto
Prevents Heartworms	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Controls Roundworms	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Controls Hookworms	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Controls Whipworms		✓	✓	✓				
Controls Tapeworms				✓				
Kills Larval Fleas			✓	✓				
Kills Adult Fleas		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Kills Ticks					✓	✓	✓	✓
Kills Mosquitoes					✓			
Kills Lice					✓			
Repels Fleas					✓			
Repels Ticks					✓			
Repels Mosquitoes					✓			
Oral (mouth)	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
Topical (skin)					✓	✓	✓	

Summer 2016

Heat Stroke and Hyperthermia

Every summer, animals left in unattended cars suffer brain damage and die from heatstroke. Heat stroke is term commonly used for hyperthermia or elevated body temperature. On even mild or cloudy days with the windows open, a parked car quickly becomes an oven. The dog's body temperature can elevate rapidly—within minutes.

What about leaving pets in the car with the air-conditioning running? In 2003, a police dog in Texas died after the AC in the patrol car shut down and began blowing hot air. The air system's compressor kicked off because the engine got too hot. In 2004, a couple from North Carolina lost two of their dogs as result of a similar failure—despite leaving bowls of ice water in the car and the air-conditioning on during their 30 minute shopping trip.

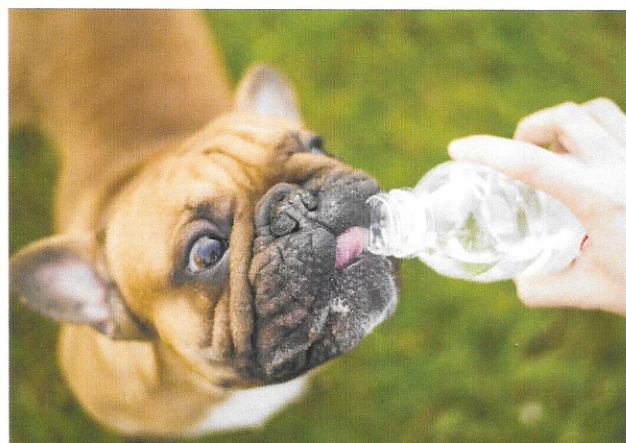
Animals are not able to sweat like humans do. Dogs cool themselves by panting and by sweating through their paws. If they only have overheated air to breathe, animals can collapse, suffer brain damage, and die of heatstroke. Just 15 minutes is enough for an animal's body temperature to rise from a normal 102.5°F to deadly levels.



How Fast Does Your Car Heat Up?

TEMPERATURE OUTSIDE	TEMPERATURE IN CAR	TIME IT TAKES TO REACH
75°F	100°F	10 minutes
75°F	120°F	30 minutes
80°F	110°F	10 minutes
85°F	120°F	30 minutes
100°F	140°F	15 minutes

Prevention	Detection	Take Action
<p>Don't confine pets in hot or humid spaces</p> <p>Avoid exercising pet during the warmest times of the day</p> <p>Never leave pet unattended in the car</p> <p>Always make sure pets have access to shade and water</p>	<p>Rapid panting</p> <p>Excessive thirst</p> <p>Bright red tongue</p> <p>Thick, sticky saliva</p> <p>Red or pale gums</p> <p>Small amounts of urine or no urine</p> <p>Irregular heart beats</p> <p>Vomiting/diarrhea</p> <p>Muscle tremors</p> <p>Wobbly, uncoordinated movement</p>	<p>Move pet to shaded or air conditioned area</p> <p>Cool pet using sponges or washcloths soaked in cool water focus on paw pads, head, belly and armpits</p> <p>Do NOT apply cold water or ice—a sudden drop in temperature can cause severe problems</p> <p>Wipe paw pads with rubbing alcohol to dilate pores and increase perspiration</p> <p>Call your veterinarian at Westgate ASAP!</p>



DO take immediate action if you see a pet in a vehicle on a hot day.

Note the car make, model, color and license plate then go to nearest store and ask managers to page the owner

Or call the police; they have the capability to enter the vehicle and rescue the pet.

Ann Arbor Police Department
(734)-764-4482

Westgate Animal Clinic

CAUTION: Clients of Westgate Animal Clinic have reported coyote sightings in their own backyard!



Ann Arbor
Adoption Event
at Petco!
Saturday June 4th
12:00-2:30 PM
3537 Washtenaw
Ave. Ann Arbor

Saturday June 4th
12:00-2:30 PM

3537 Washtenaw
Ave. Ann Arbor



Bark For Life!

Walk/run event with
games and competitions
for dogs and their
owners, supporting the
American Cancer
Society.

Saturday August 27th

Hudson Mills Metropark
Dexter

Walk/run event with games and competitions for dogs and their owners, supporting the American Cancer Society.

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Keep Your Pets Safe from Coyotes!

- Keep cats indoors
- Keep your dog on leash and within sight
- Feed pets indoors—do not leave pet food outside where it can attract and habituate wild animals
- Install a fence to prevent coyotes from entering your yard

If you see a coyote...

- Do not run or turn your back
- Pick up small pets
- Be as big and loud as possible—wave your arms, clap your hands, and shout in an authoritative voice
- Make noise with pots and pans, an air horn, or a whistle

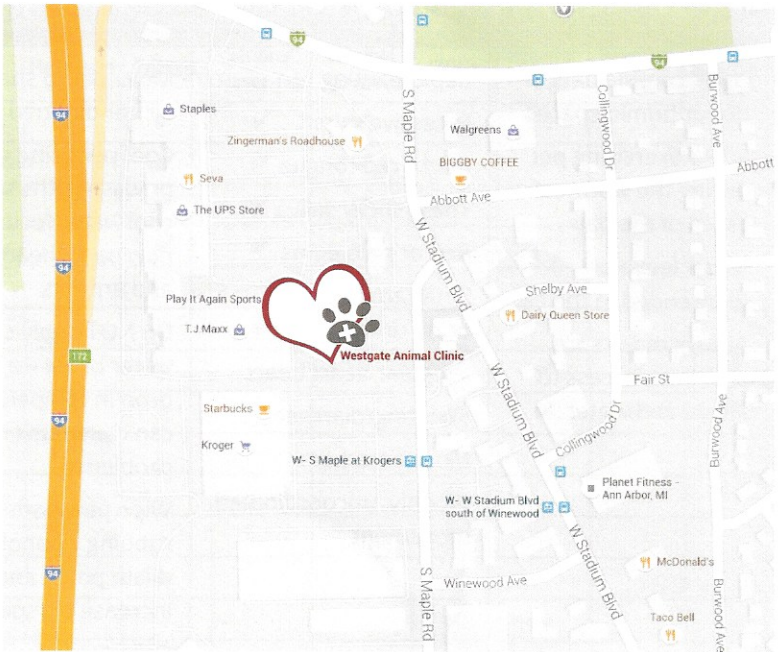


Coyotes are opportunistic hunters. They prey on small mammals, pets, livestock, and plants. Coyotes can carry distemper, hepatitis, parvo virus, and mange. Coyotes also can be infected with rabies and tularemia, that can be transmitted to other animals and humans. Numerous parasites live on the coyote including mites, ticks, fleas, and worms. Coyotes are known to carry heartworm, hookworm, and tapeworms. If you suspect your pet has been attacked by a coyote, bring them to a veterinarian immediately.

Come visit the NEW Westgate Animal Clinic!

Quality medicine, outstanding client service, and compassionate care is our goal.

- ❖ The most advanced digital radiography software allows us to adjust magnification and contrast providing better images and reducing stress to your pet.
- ❖ The newest Idexx blood analyzers can provide your pet's blood results in minutes in an emergency.
- ❖ A dedicated cat room (no dogs allowed), complete with calming pheromones and a soft blanket on the exam table, to help reduce stress for our feline friends.
- ❖ New owner Andrea Moehlman, DVM brings over 20 years of wellness and emergency experience to Westgate Animal Clinic.
- ❖ New look—we are busy painting, scrubbing, and remodeling our clinic so that our appearance will soon match our quality of care.



Located in the Westgate Shopping Center at
2455 W. Stadium Blvd. Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Call us to schedule an appointment!
(734)-996-9311