

Parasitic and vector-borne disease protection.

How to help both your pet and your family.



What are parasites and why do they matter?

- + Parasites are organisms that survive by feeding on animals and sometimes people.
- + Parasites can live in a dog's or cat's blood, organs, or on their skin.
- + They can also spread diseases that can threaten the health of your pet and family.
- + Exposure to infection is possible wherever ticks, mosquitoes, and other blood-sucking insects are found.
- + Intestinal parasites can easily be contracted through contaminated dirt or sometimes through other parasites like fleas.
- + Prevention may not be 100% effective.
- + It's important to have your pet tested regularly as recommended by your veterinarian.

Parasite screening is an important part of your pet's regular wellness diagnostics. By identifying issues early, we can help your pet live a longer, happier life.





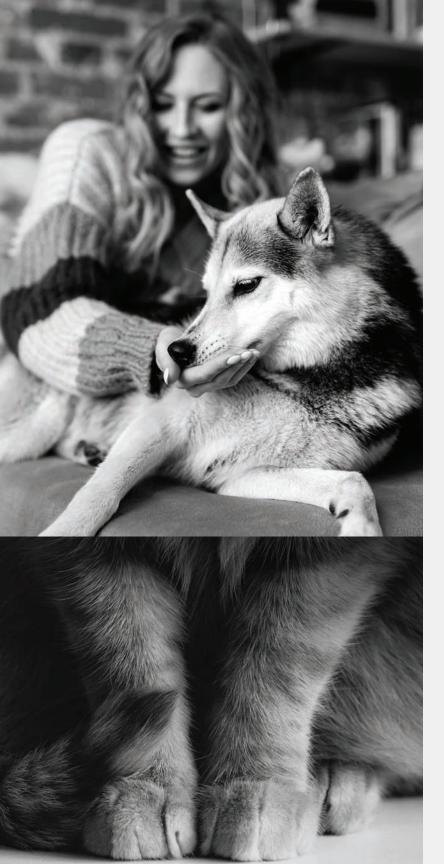
Helpful tips to help protect your pet and family.

- + Pick up and dispose of your pet's stool regularly.
- + Wash your hands after exposure to your pet's urine, stool, soil (gardening), and sandboxes.
- + Cover sandboxes and play areas to prevent wildlife and strays from contaminating these areas.
- + Remind children not to put dirt or dirty hands in their mouths.

- + Check your pet and your family for ticks regularly.

 If you find a tick, remove it right away.
- + Use parasite preventive medications as directed by your veterinarian.
- + Have your pet tested at least once a year or as recommended by your veterinarian.





Ask your veterinarian about:



Fecal antigen testing.

This type of testing finds intestinal parasite infections that other types of testing may miss.



Blood tests, including a comprehensive vector-borne disease screen.

Testing your dog's blood reveals diseases spread by ticks and mosquitoes.



Effective treatments and prevention.

Your veterinarian will recommend the best approach for your dog or cat.

Your guide to understanding parasitic and vector-borne diseases.

Infectious Disease progression Most common signs **Causes of infection** diseases of infection if not treated **Diagnostics Treatment** Hookworm Stool sample and tests, Exposure to contaminated Diarrhea · Failure to grow/thrive Deworming Roundworm including fecal antigen soil or stool that contains Loose stool or blood Severe anemia medication Whipworm testing. eggs or worm larvae. in stool Weight loss and monthly • Flea transmission from mother to · Pale gums Death preventives tapeworm offspring during pregnancy, Poor hair quality · Cystoisospora or ingestion of infected fleas · Poor health can lead to worm infections. Pot-bellied appearance Vomiting · Or may not show any signs Infected mosquitoes spread Heart failure Blood tests: Mild cough Heartworm worm larvae from infected · Reduced appetite · Lung disease · Comprehensive vector-borne · Reluctance to move Death diseases screen best treatment animals to your pet. · Chemistry profile or exercise · Weight loss · Complete blood count



Infected ticks carry bacteria and bite your pet, spreading infection. Ticks spread many diseases.

- Borrelia burgdorferi (Lyme)
- Ehrlichia spp.
- Anaplasma spp.
- elia Bloody nose of the dorferi Fever
 - Lack of energy
 - Lameness
 - Loss of appetite
 - Painful joints
 - Pale gums
 - Or may not show any signs

- Autoimmune diseases
 - · Bleeding complications
 - · Chronic joint pain
 - Damaged joints
 - Death
 - · Kidney disease
 - · Low platelet count
- Low white blood cell count

Blood tests:

A urine test

 Comprehensive vector-borne diseases screen

Other (depending on initial findings and clinical signs)

- Chemistry profile
- Complete blood count

A urine test

Other (depending on initial findings and clinical signs)

Protection

Monthly parasite control products (available from your veterinarian), often included in your monthly heartworm preventives

Also remember to pick up your pet's stool regularly

Your veterinarian Oral, topic will advise the heartworn

Antibiotics

veterinarian

by your

recommended

Oral, topical, and injectable heartworm preventives

Tick removal and use of tick preventives and Lyme vaccines

Talk with your veterinarian about including comprehensive parasite and vector-borne disease testing during your pet's next wellness visit.

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