

Country Doctor



Quarterly Newsletter

May and June 2013

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In the last newsletter I discussed ticks and Lyme disease. Let's continue that thought because this is a big issue here in Ashtabula and Lake Counties. I just cannot over emphasize the importance of learning as much as possible about this. Once again ticks and Lyme disease are not new by any means however they are new to us. Furthermore they are not going away. This is the new reality and we must all learn how to live safely with these health threats in our midst.

Vaccination is the key to prevention for your dogs. It is safe and highly effective. We are now vaccinating all of our K9 patients at both the Geneva and Country Doctor Veterinary Clinics. Unfortunately there is no vaccine for other species including us humans. We are also testing for Lyme and other tick borne diseases when we test for heartworm disease. Our protocol is to treat and vaccinate those dogs which test positive and then retest in approximately 6 months.

Current scientific knowledge indicates that treatment can eliminate the infection in most cases; however it will not reverse damage done to joints, kidneys and other organs. The key is to vaccinate prior to exposure and to use effective tick control products. It is important to note that while there are many good flea products on the market there are only a few good tick products. Many flea products have a tick claim but beware most do not work very well! Also please realize that while one product has some repellent properties (Vectra) in most cases the ticks must bite the pet in order for the product to kill them. Lyme exposure can result at the time of the bite.

The lesson here is that while you may be using an effective tick prevention that does not equate to Lyme protection. Vaccinate, vaccinate, vaccinate! We have made the Lyme vaccine a part of the routine annual visit and have kept it very affordable. Please call for more information about ticks and Lyme disease.

Live Well and Stay Healthy My Furry Friends
Dr. Charles Curie

For more information please visit our website or go to:

www.cpcvet.com

Dogsandticks.com

www.tickencounter.org

tickapp.tamu.edu



June is Adopt a Cat Month

We are celebrating by offering the first office call/exam for FREE + receive 1 FREE dose of Revolution, if you adopt from the APL.



A Word about Bathing Your Pet

If you're applying a topical flea product on your pet monthly we are now recommending to bath your pet with soap less shampoo. We carry these special shampoo's but you can purchase them anywhere just check the label before you buy!

