

Flea Life Cycle

The female flea lays 20+ **EGGS** per day on your pet. The eggs then drop off into the environment within hours. Normally, in 1-10 days, the larva will emerge.



The flea **LARVA** is roughly around 0.5cm long. Outdoors, they like to be in cool shady areas such as under bushes and decks. Indoors, they are usually in undisturbed areas like carpet, under furniture, and around baseboards. They eat pre-digested blood passed by the adult fleas as well as other organic material in the environment. Within about 2 weeks, the larva will spin a cocoon and progress into the pupal stage.

The **PUPA** can be found in soil, on vegetation, in carpets, under furniture, and on animal bedding. An adult emerges after about 5-14 days of the formation of the cocoon. The adult flea will not emerge until the presence of a potential host is made obvious - by vibrations, rising levels of carbon dioxide, and body heat. This may be triggered by your pet (or you) moving in the house. Without these signals (i.e. vacant home), the adult can stay as a pupa for months (up to 5-6 months).



ADULT fleas will immediately jump on your pet and may begin feeding within minutes. Egg production begins within a day of the female taking her first blood meal. During warmer months the flea life cycle can be completed in 2-3 weeks.



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LAFAYETTE, IN
PERMIT # 488
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Or Current Resident

Flea Treatment

For at least 3 consecutive months, treat all the pets that live in your house or come into your home with topical or oral flea prevention. We do not recommend flea dips or baths as they only kill the fleas on the pet at that time, there is no residual treatment. Also, if you are using a topical product, do not bath your pet 2 days before and/or after the treatment, because that will alter the efficacy of the product.



Treat the environment by vacuuming regularly for several weeks and thoroughly washing bedding and toys in hot soapy water to remove eggs, larvae, and pupae. Remember to seal and remove vacuum bags after each cleaning session. You may treat the home with foggers or spray but be sure to read all directions carefully and keep all humans and pets out of the home for the instructed time period (and be sure to cover all food/water bowls appropriately).

Fleas can be difficult to eliminate but can be done if you are vigilant and use the correct chemicals in a safe and effective manner. Be sure to treat all the areas where your pet spends time, including the car and yard.



In clinic we carry several flea preventions, give us a call to discuss which one best fits your pet's lifestyle



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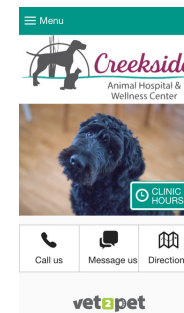
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Allergies

Spring is around the corner. Is your pet itching? Allergies could be the culprit. The most common cause of itching in dogs is flea allergy dermatitis. Flea prevention is paramount to your pet's skin health! If fleas are not the issue, spring allergies do tend to be outdoor triggers. The most common allergies in the spring are weeds, trees and grass pollens. Although human allergies most often affect the nose and eyes, the most common clinical symptoms for dogs are itchy skin and secondary ear/skin infections. The most common site for itching and licking includes the paws, face, and ears. If your pet starts to itch as the weather warms up, give us a call! We have several different pet safe allergy medications available.

AKC Reunite Microchips

While there are no annual fees, AKC does offer several upgrades that may be beneficial.



The first is their "Alert" system. If your pet takes themselves on an adventure, AKC will broadcast to your local vets/shelters/pet lovers that your furry family member is missing.



The other upgrade that we really encourage is the Pet Poison Helpline access. This is a one time lifetime fee of \$15 for unlimited calls to the Pet Poison Helpline. One incident is \$59, so the first call already pays for itself!

Heartworms

In dogs, heartworms mature into adults, mate and produce offspring. If untreated, dogs could have several hundred worms in their bodies. Heartworm disease causes lasting damage to the heart, lungs and arteries, and can affect the dog's health and quality of life long after the parasites are gone.

In cats, most worms do not survive to the adult stage. However, even immature worms cause real damage and, in some cats, the first sign of disease may be death. Also, the medication used to treat heart worm infections in dogs cannot be used in cats.

We recommend year-round heart worm prevention and carry several different preventions. Give us a call to discuss which one best fits your pet's lifestyle. Some products include treatment of intestinal parasites and/or fleas as well. Prevention costs approximately 1/10 the amount for treatment. Additionally, the treatment will just kill the adult worms, not reverse or treat any damage they {may} have caused.



If your pet is (or you want them to be) on a product that we do not currently carry in hospital, let us know. We now have our own online pharmacy where we can order the product for you and have it shipped to your doorstep!

CT Scanning



We now have the ability to perform CT scans! Previously, this was only a possibility with a referral to a specialty hospital. Now we can do them ourselves! We are extremely excited to be able to provide this procedure to our patients. CT imaging creates detailed 3D images of the internal structures of your pet's body.

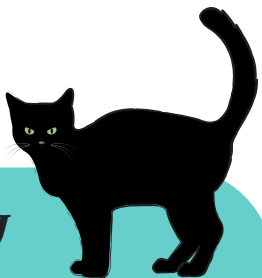
These images contain a great deal of data that can be used to diagnose a wide range of pet health issues.

While a basic radiograph will likely still be our primary imaging recommendation for most medical conditions, there will be times when we need more information on your pet's specific medical condition and a CT will be recommended. The precision and detail of the CT relies on the pet being completely still during the imaging process. So while most pets can be radiographed awake, the CT requires pets to be sedated or anesthetized for the very short time that it takes for the CT unit to complete its full image series. Our machine's beam completes a 360degree revolution in as little as 18 seconds, capturing all the data needed to create a full study and 3D image. Depending on the specifics of each unique CT, most procedures take around 15 minutes from start to finish.

Pet ID's

Now that the weather is nicer, you are likely getting outside more often. Your pet may be wanting to enjoy the weather with you. Don't forget to protect them with proper ID tags! Appropriate ID tags should minimally have your pet's name as well as your updated contact information. If your pet is not microchipped, now is a great time to do so. If they are chipped, have you checked your information lately? Has it changed since your pet was registered? Also, make sure you have uploaded a recent pet photo just in case. If you want more information on microchipping, don't hesitate to give us a call!

Laparoscopy



We also have a new Laparoscope, which allows us to perform minimally invasive surgeries! This is the same technology that is the standard of care in human medicine.

We are pleased to announce that we are now able to perform laparoscopic spays and prophylactic gastropexies (stomach tacking). A laparoscopic method allows your pet an easier, faster, and less painful recovery. Our veterinarians are also looking forward to learning how to perform other procedures using this minimally invasive method. Give us a call to discuss with a technician if your pet would be a good candidate for a laparoscopic spay or gastropexy.