



Creekside  
Animal Hospital

This coupon is good for:

**ONE FREE  
BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK**

Only valid throughout the month of February 2013.

 Creekside  
Animal Hospital  
2840 Schuyler Avenue  
Lafayette, IN 47905

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LAFAYETTE, IN  
PERMIT #89  
ZIP CODE 47905

Or Current Resident



Creekside  
Animal Hospital

Winter 2013

www.CreeksideAH.com



We now have a **mobile website** that you can use as an app on your smartphone.

[m.creeksideah.com](http://m.creeksideah.com)



Thank you all for voting us the  
**- Best Animal Hospital -**  
in the Greater Lafayette area again for the  
**fourth** year in a row.  
We are thrilled to win this award once again.



**New software** – Please be patient with us as our staff learns how to make use of new technologies. We are upgrading our software system which might mean a little bit of waiting as we all learn to navigate our way around it. This update is essential for our practice to keep up with today's technology and will allow us to e-mail, fax and share reports with other hospitals and specialists much faster. There will be a learning curve for all of us as we have used our current software for many many years. We know this will be a great step forward for Creekside and our patients future.



**BRRRRRRRRR... IT'S COLD!!!**

**Please do not forget about outdoor pets.**

Pets who live outdoors need adequate shelter, FRESH (not frozen) water, and generally have increase calorie needs in the cold winter months. Long-haired breeds need to be free of matts for their undercoat to protect them properly from the frigid temperatures.

Please take some extra time to be sure that you pets are safe outside.

**Just so you know** – Next time you write a check you will probably be asked for your Drivers License number. Due to an overwhelming amount of checks returned to us for NSF, we have decided to use a new system that will electronically process your check. This system requires that your driver's license as well as phone number are written on the check. We apologize for any inconvenience.



## Please remember to keep your Valentine's candy out of reach from your furry friends!



Chocolate is as tempting to them as it is for us humans! **Can you blame them?** After all, it just tastes so good. Unfortunately chocolate can be dangerous for our dogs, please call our office with any concerns or questions if your pet has eaten any chocolate.

Dogs get a taste for chocolate - they find the flavor of theobromine addictive. Even if your dog can eat small amounts of chocolate without any ill effect, don't give him a taste for it because he'll then try to sniff out and eat chocolate at every opportunity.

### What are the signs of poisoning?

The symptoms of theobromine poisoning generally show within four to twenty four hours of your dog having eaten the chocolate. The early symptoms include vomiting, diarrhea, excessive thirst, increased urination and restlessness.

As time goes on, and your dog absorbs more theobromine into his system, symptoms such as lack of co-ordination, muscle twitching, hyperactivity, increased heart rate and raised blood pressure will be evident.

### What do I do if my dog's eaten chocolate?

The first thing you should do is to call us and describe the symptoms your dog is showing (if any) and the type and quantity of chocolate your dog has, or you think he has, eaten.

The doctors at Creekside will need to treat your dog, but may advise you to make your dog vomit before bringing him to the hospital. Most dogs recover within 24 to 72 hours of treatment by their vet.

## February is National Pet Dental Month

Proper dental care can detect dental disease that not only affects the mouth, but can also lead to more serious health problems such as heart, lung, and kidney disease. Good dental hygiene is just as important for pets as it is for humans. Yet, it is one of the most overlooked areas in pet health. Studies by the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) reveal that nearly two-thirds of pet owners do not provide the dental care recommended by veterinarians.

At Creekside we believe dental health is important year round and always offer FREE DENTAL EXAMS with one of our registered veterinary technicians. If it is decided that your pet would benefit from a dental cleaning you will receive a coupon good for \$20 off if the dental cleaning is done within a month of the exam.



## When bringing your pets into the office...

Please be sure to have all dogs on a leash with a well-fitting collar and all cats in carriers. Animals are easily scared by the sounds of a passing semi-truck and we want them to get into the building and back home safely. Please do not try to carry your cat in your arms – this can be dangerous for both animal and human.

## HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE IN CATS?!

**Yes!** Our feline friends can suffer from high blood pressure, also known as hypertension, just as we humans do.

High blood pressure can be silent and dangerous. It can affect organs such as the eyes, kidneys, heart, and brain. Sometimes cats with other diseases such as hyperthyroidism and kidney disease can also suffer from hypertension.

There are some signs that you can watch for in your cat that might alert us to high blood pressure. If your cat has any of the mentioned signs, their blood pressure can be checked by the veterinarian in a similar manner to how your blood pressure is taken. It is painless to your pet.

Medication can help control hypertension and often times we can help reverse symptoms such as sudden blindness if caught early enough. We encourage all cats over the age of 8 to get a yearly blood pressure check.

> > > **See the back page for a coupon for a free blood pressure check for your cat.** < < <



### Clinical signs to look for:

- Lethargy
- Changes in activity or appetite
- Changes in mental status
- Quick onset of blindness or dilated pupils
- Seizures

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

### Calendar Fundraiser

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#### **Our calendar fundraiser was a great success.**

We missed a few photos by mistake, but we are really proud that our first annual calendar helped raise so much money for Lafayette's homeless pets.

**We were able to donate \$1,000 to Almost Home Humane Society!**

There are still a few calendars left! The cost is \$20 per calendar. There are *only* Creekside patients gracing the pages and all proceeds go to Almost Home Humane Society.

### Relay for Life

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Our team is already in full swing trying to raise money for the American Cancer Society. The relay takes place in May this year and we hope to beat last years donations by **50%**.

We welcome any clients to join our team "**Team Creekside**" and walk with us as we honor and remember those who have had to battle cancer.

### Strike Out Suffering

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Join us at the **AHHS Strike Out Suffering** on March 2, 2013.

This fundraiser takes place at star lanes and is so much fun to take part in. Creekside will have two team there bowling.