

HELPING YOUR CAT COPE THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS

There are many injuries and illnesses seen in our feline friends during the holidays. Some cats find the holidays as stressful as humans. Here are some tips to help make this time of year merry for all:

-Keep tinsel, ribbon and thread out of their reach to prevent ingestion and or strangulation.

-Avoid getting a new pet as a pulse adoption. Remember that a pet is a lifelong commitment and any new pet will require some adjustment with your current pet.

-All of the people coming and going allows greater chance for escape. Keep your cat in an interior room if you are expecting lots of company. Allow your cat a place to "escape" from all the noise and chaos if they are not used to it. This is especially true if they are not used to small children or other visiting pets. A small private area with food, water, and a clean litter box may provide welcomed relief.

-A pheromone spray such as Feliway may provide a nonmedicinal alternative to help keep your cat calm. Ask us about your options with Feliway as it is available in wipes, pads, sprays and difusers.



that our doctors will have adequate time to examine, diagnose, prescribe, and answer all of your questions during your visit. Please call us if you will not be able to make your scheduled appointment time so that we can attend to your pet's needs appropriately.

Creekside Gift Cards

The holidays will be here before we know it. If you haven't decided on gift ideas for your loved ones, we have the perfect solution for you! Creekside Animal Hospital & Wellness Center now offers gift cards and they make the perfect gift for any occasion. Our gift cards can be purchased at any location and are sold in \$5 increments up to \$500. Ask our staff for more information.

East Hazards!

Chocolate - although yummy to us, it can be extremely toxic to pets
Plastic Easter Grass - it is non-digestible and can become lodged in the stomach or intestines, requiring emergency surgery.

Plants - keep an eye out especially for lilies, but many others can cause toxicities. www.aspc.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/toxic-and-non-toxic-plants

Fertilizers/Herbicides - most of us start gardening around Easter; be aware that these products are dangerous if consumed!

Don't forget to download The Creekside App!

3 reasons to do an Annual Heartworm Test

Even if you faithfully give your pet heartworm prevention year round, we still recommend annual testing. Here's why

1. Protection Limits - preventions kill the heartworm larva while they're still young. Any lapse in prevention allows the worms to get too old for the prevention to kill.
2. Testing Limits - because of the complexity of the heartworm lifecycle, it is possible for your pet to test negative while still having heartworms; that next years test is imperative to confirm negativity.
3. Insurance - prevention manufactures guarantee their product only when it has been bought from a veterinarian, given as labeled, and if testing has been done annually. If those 3 requirements are met and your pet comes up positive, the company will at minimum cover the cost of treatment.