

Dr. Oakley says....

Ticks, Ticks and more ticks! Last summer brought the flea invasion. This spring brings the tick explosion? According to Banfield's Pet Hospital State of Pet Health 2011 report, May and June are the peak of tick season for dogs and cats. This is just the peak of a year-round parasite. Some ticks move indoors, closer to us, in colder months and others produce a type of antifreeze during the winter months to survive.

Lyme disease is most prevalent in the northeast, from PA to MA and the upper Midwest according to DVM360. The black-legged tick, or deer tick lives in grassy meadows, young forests and along roadways and trails...hmmm...sounds like Lebanon.

The products of past years seem to be tired; some have lost their effectiveness. Dr. Z has recently been testing some newer drugs on the market. He likes to see them work in the field before recommending them. This year brought good, new options to discuss with your veterinary team. Bargain shoppers...look no further! Ask your vet if they match prices or offer volume discounts. Veterinarians are sometimes able to offer rebates from the manufacturers that non medical retailers cannot. For your convenience, Lebanon Veterinary Hospital, or LVH, will even deliver medications to your doorstep.

Time for summer vacations? Don't forget to book ahead and vaccinate your pet before going away. Short on time? LVH offers "no worries" boarding packages which includes your dog or cat's physical exam, vaccinations and any tests they may need while they board with us. While they enjoy staying with us, dogs can play out back in our fenced yard. We can examine and vaccinate them once they settle in and are comfortable. The Zickmann children love to visit the guests while our caring staff is responsible for your pets care. Pets needing medication or insulin are welcome and our highly trained staff will tend to those needs.

Also, please stop in and meet our newest member of the LVH family-Leonardo. Leonardo came to us from the PAWS rescue group. They knew we would be open to the right guy after losing Harley last year. Since we have so many people and pets visit us, we needed a laid back, easy going, and healthy cat to join us. We also prefer large males as Dr. Z says that he has to be willing to be a blood donor when the need arises. Harley was well loved and donated several times and saved 3 cats and many kittens with his generosity. After you meet Leonardo, now Leonardo Gatsby because the staff thinks he's bigger than life, we think you'll agree that nothing upsets him. And as loving as he is, he would also be happy to donate the gift of life if it becomes necessary.

Leonardo Gatsby, or LG, kept an eye on me when we first met; but if you've met me you know that not much excites me. So, LG quickly accepted me and now we like to nap near each other, happy, completely stress-free, warm and zzzzz.....

Peace,

Dr. O

BTW:

Here's a favorite recipe to keep your pets cool as the temperatures start to rise.

Banana nilla chillers

32 oz. nonfat vanilla yogurt

1 mashed banana

2 TBSP. low fat peanut butter

2 TBSP. honey

Blend and freeze in 3 oz. paper cups or ice cube trays

Good for kids and pets!!

Stay cool!

Dr. O