



Heartworm Prevention

Written by: American Heartworm Society

Heartworm prevention for dogs is an important concern for every pet owner. Prevention is an important part of providing essential care, and heartworm disease prevention for dogs is something every owner can do.

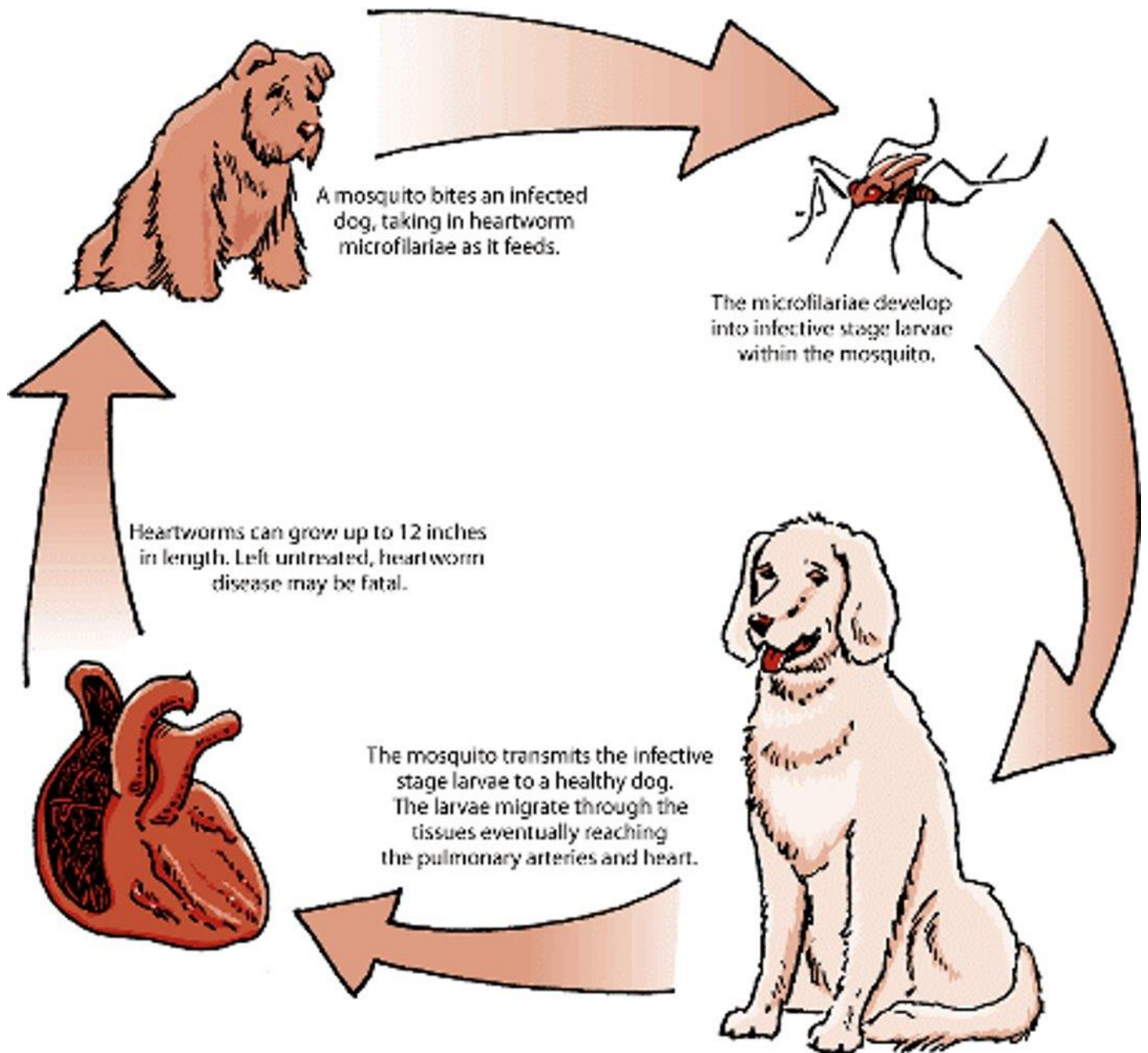
Consider this:

- Dogs have been diagnosed with heartworm disease in every state in the U.S.
- Heartworms are spread by mosquitoes, so any area of the country that has mosquitoes—even just a few of them—can also have heartworm disease.
- Dogs don't just need prevention during warm-weather months. Heartworm preventives work by treating heartworms that already infected the pet within the past month or longer; meanwhile, preventives need to be given on time, every time to be effective. That's why the American Heartworm Society recommends year-round heartworm prevention for pets.
- The American Heartworm Society estimates that more than a million dogs in the U.S. have heartworm disease—and heartworm disease can be fatal.
- Cats and ferrets can also get heartworm disease.
- Heartworm preventives are safe, relatively inexpensive and easy to give, but if a dog becomes infected, heartworm treatment can be costly and difficult, requiring multiple veterinary visits and months of exercise restriction.
- While there are drug-free strategies owners can put in place to reduce a pet's exposure to mosquitoes, there's no such thing as a "natural" heartworm preventatives.

Heartworm preventives come in different forms, including monthly chewable pills and topical "spot on" medications, as well as an injectable medication that is given every 6 or 12 months. Heartworm preventives are available only by prescription from veterinarians.

Some preventives only prevent heartworms, some protect pets from heartworms and intestinal parasites, and some protect pets from many different parasites, including heartworms, intestinal worms, fleas, ticks and mites. Because veterinarians know which parasites are common in the area

in which they practice, owners should talk to their pet's veterinarian about what product or products will be best for their pets.



Dogs Corner



Dog Fact: This month we look at Beagles. Beagles were bred to hunt in packs and enjoys company. They are curious, clever, and energetic hounds who require plenty of playtime. With their incredible sense of smell and boundless curiosity, Beagles treat spring like a grand adventure waiting to be discovered. Beagles are also known for their “bays” which are ways for them to communicate and express their emotions.

Pet of the Month: Willow-Milkshake

Written by: Erin Atsaves

Meet Willow-Milkshake, a 6-year-old Bernese Mountain dog who lives into her name! She is a floppy, limber, sweet girl who shakes when she runs! She loves meeting new people and wants to be the center of attention! Greetings from Willow-Milk are the best! Her signature move is to come in hot, facing forward and when she gets to you, she will swing her big booty over and plop on your feet! At 90lbs she is a whole lot of milkshakes! Like most Berner's, her feet are very sensitive. She once jumped straight up into the air and hopped mid-air sideways to avoid a FEATHER in her path!!! A snowy wonderland is her happy place. Good luck taking her for a walk in the summer; she will seek out the shade and has been known to flop on the road when she gets hot and refuse to budge! Luckily, she loves to swim and will swim, wade for hours and chase geese in freezing water for over 30 min; much to our dismay! She loves to chase anything that moves and, in the morning, she loves waking up to belly rubs in her humans' bed! She is very sweet to her little brother, D'Angelo, her family's new kitty. She brings us so much joy!

Cats Corner



Cat Fact: The Abyssinian, one of the oldest known cat breeds, shows a surprising interest in water. While not as enthusiastic about swimming as other breeds, Abyssinians are often curious about water and may play with water dishes or investigate showers and taps. Their playful and inquisitive nature extends to their interactions with water. Due to their athletic build, luminous coat, and large, golden-colored eyes, Abyssinians are sometimes referred to as mini cougars.



Pet Desk is Here!

We have a new interactive communication tool for your pet's health called PetDesk. It is a mobile app where you will receive reminders for your pet's health care, access your pet's vaccine information and appointment history, access to refill history and has informative pet related articles. You can utilize the app for 24/7 online booking, request prescription refills, receive lab work results and you can receive text updates from our hospital staff.

Download the app now!



PET DENTAL AWARENESS:

We celebrate Pet Dental Awareness all throughout the year. Book your pet's dental cleaning and oral health exam during April and May and you will receive \$100.00 off the cost of those services.

RUFFerral Program:

At Franklin Farm we believe "RUFFerrals" are the greatest form of flattery. Refer a friend and your pet will receive a \$25.00 credit at your next appointment. Your referral's pet will receive a FREE bag of treats at their first appointment.



Celebrations in April:

This month we raise awareness to heartworm prevention. April is Heartworm Awareness Month. The American Heartworm Society recommends heartworm testing once a year and using heartworm prevention all year long. Missing just one dose of heartworm prevention can lead to a pet getting infected. If you and your pet are headed to the veterinarian's office this spring for an annual check-up, be sure you leave the clinic with heartworm prevention!

Cancellation Policy:

Hello Everyone: We need your help! **If you are unable to keep your appointment for any reason, please call to reschedule or cancel the appointment more than 24 hours in advance of your scheduled appointment time.**

This allows ample time for other clients to call and get their fur babies seen.

We understand that you all have a lot going on in your lives and unexpected things pop up, so please remember to contact us **more than 24 hours** in advance of your scheduled appointment time.

We have implemented a Cancellation Policy, as follows:

If you need to reschedule or cancel your appointment, please do so **more than 24 hours** in advance of your appointment time. If you reschedule/cancel less than 24 hours leading up to your appointment, or no show, you will be charged for the office visit fee correlating to your appointment.

When you reschedule or cancel **more than 24 hours** in advance, it allows other patients to be seen in your rescheduled/canceled spot. This ensures the best opportunity for care for all of our patients.

Thank you for your anticipated assistance!

