### Volume 12 Issue 63 Summer 2015

#### **Summer Parasites**

This is the time of year when summer parasites can cause problems for your pet. Whether your pet stays inside all day, or goes outside, they will encounter the potential to get parasites. Common bugs like fleas, ticks and mosquitoes carry the parasites and all it takes is one bite. Your local veterinarian can help you keep parasites under control during the peak season of summer and fall.



**Fleas-** Fleas pose a problem for pets. Even a mild infestation can cause severe problems for a pet that is allergic to its bite. Flea allergy dermatitis is one of the leading skin problems a veterinarian will treat. Just a few fleas can cause irritation and itching for days. Besides allergies, fleas can transmit tapeworms to your pet and tapeworms can cause other problems. It is easy to prevent fleas from affecting your pet. There are many topical and oral flea prevention medicines available and your veterinarian can help you choose the right one.

**Ticks-** There are a number of diseases associated with ticks. Ehrlichia is the most common. It is caused by a rickettsial organism and is characterized by anemia, low platelet counts, bleeding, fever, lethargy, neurologic disease and multiple leg arthritis. There is also Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Lyme disease, as well as less commonly known diseases. There are some flea prevention medicines that prevent ticks as well. If you live in an area that is prone to ticks, having the right medicine for fleas can help prevent ticks too. You can also treat your yard to help keep the tick population down.

**Mosquitoes-** We are all aware of some of the dangerous diseases mosquitoes carry. West Nile Virus is one of the many virus associated with the mosquito. Although heartworm is more of a problem for dogs than cats, in areas where heartworm is prolific, it can be more of a problem for cats than was once realized.

**Protecting Against Summer Parasites-** When it comes to preventing parasites in pets, your local veterinarian can help you determine the best medicine to meet your needs. This is based on how many pets you have, if your pet has allergies, and if there is an infestation. Pet protection comes in many forms including popular topical treatment that you apply to the back of your pet's neck. Your veterinarian can also check your pet to determine if they have worms or need additional treatment for parasites. If you have any questions about summer parasites, contact your veterinarian and they will be happy to help you.

Source: http://advancedanimalcare.com/pages/blog/summer-parasites.php

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# Bellwether's <u>Mission Statement</u>

"Helping animals and people make a connection through education, training and adoption"



#### **Supplies Are Always Needed**

Bellwether Harbor is a non-profit entity that relies on the gifts of donors and volunteers to continue its mission of helping animals and people make a connection through education, training and adoption. If you or someone you know is interested in donating any of the following items to the animals at Bellwether Harbor contact the shelter at 231-924-9230. All donations are tax deductible.

- Hard Dog Toys
- Cat Toys

- Leashes

- Pet Carriers
- Copy Paper
  - Unscented Clay Cat Litter

- Peanut Butter for Kongs

- Liquid All Free Detergent

- Friskies Canned Cat Food, Pate Style
- Diamond Naturals Beef Meal and Rice Dog Food
- Fancy Feast Canned Kitten Food

- Paper Towels Newspapers (no inserts)
- Crates, Wire Cages Clorox Bleach & Wipes
- Large Garbage Bags
- Used Blankets (no zippers)
- Diamond Naturals Puppy Food
- Diamond Naturals Active Cat Food
- Diamond Naturals Kitten Food



## Have you met Carly?



Carly came to us from a group of cats left behind in a barn when the previous owner moved. The family that moved into the home had several young children that did an amazing job of socializing this sweet little girl. She is a lover that begins purring as soon as you look at her! Carly is FIV/FLT negative. She has been spayed and is up to date on vaccines. She will also be micro chipped before going to her forever home. Carly's approximate DOB was 9/6/14 and her date of arrival was 3/5/15. She is a domesticated short hair, dilute tortoiseshell.

We don't know a lot about Abraham's past but we are hoping to give him a bright future. He is early in training and is begin-

ning to learn basic manners. Abe has great potential and could be amazing with an experienced trainer to show him the way. Abe has a high drive that could make him excel as a weight pulling or dock diving dog with the right training. He is looking for a home with no cats or small children.

Abraham is UTD on vaccines, is heartworm negative and has been neutered. He will also be micro-chipped before going to his new forever home. Abe is a blue Pit Bull Terrier. His approximate DOB was 8/14/13 and his date of arrival was 2/10/15.

### Have you met Abe?



\*\*\*\*\*Due to his breed, please check local regulations before submitting your application\*\*\*\*\*

### More Volunteers Are Always Welcome and Very Much Needed

Bellwether Harbor is always looking for committed volunteers to help at the shelter. The animals love you for it! Volunteers are needed in all areas including:

- Socializing cats and dogs
- Bathing and grooming animals
- Housekeeping
- Fundraising

Grant WritingSpecial events

- Kennel Cleaning

- Dog Walking
- Education
- Photography
- Advertising

- Marketing

Volunteers must be 15 years of age or older. For more information about volunteering and how you can help at Bellwether Harbor, visit the shelter or contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Carmen Froehle at 231-924-9230 ext. 3 or carmen@bellwetherharbor.org.

### Pet Pals on the Road!

This summer Bellwether has already visited 4 cities with Pet Pals on the Road. We visit children and teach them the importance of staying safe around dogs they know or may NOT know. We bring a dog with us and show how to greet a dog as well. The kids love our visits and we hope they carry on the information to others and always remember our visit.





# How to Keep Your Dog's Healthcare Costs Low

- Provide regular preventative care to keep your dog healthy. Keep his teeth clean by brushing his teeth, and having them cleaned professionally as soon as this is needed. Take him to your primary care veterinarian for a checkup every year.
- Protect his mental and emotional health, too. Chronic stress can affect his immune system, and make him prone to physical illness.
- Control your dogs weight, and provide him with plenty of safe exercise.
- Prevent emergencies, don't let your dog roam unsupervised.
- Keep your dogs safety in mind. Use a canine seatbelt or put him in a crate that is securely fastened in your car. Don't subject him to conditions where he may become subject to heatstroke or frostbite.
- Feed your dog the best food you can afford. Change his diet if it seems to cause any sort of digestive, skin, or other type of problems.
- Spay or neuter your dog.



**Is your pet wearing an I.D. tag?** ID tags should be worn by your animal at all times. A dog or cat can easily slip out through an open door and run off. The tag should be worn on a properly fitted collar, reducing the chances of the collar slipping off.

**Do you have up-to-date information on the ID tag?** Make sure to update your pet's ID tag or microchip information immediately when you move or change phone numbers. We offer both services here at Bellwether Harbor. Available anytime are tags which are engraved here while you wait, for a reasonable price. An ID tag will allow anyone who finds your animal to immediately call you or return your dog to your house.

Get your pet(s) Micro Chipped! Microchips are a great source of identifying lost pets; a veterinarian or shelter can scan the chip and bring up the owner's information. Standard ID tags are still highly recommended to use along with a microchip. Microchip clinics are held every second Saturday of the month or by special appointment.

#### Visit Us On The Web: www.bellwetherharbor.org



Our website has information about Bellwether Harbor, its policies and how to adopt an animal. It also has tips for owners needing to find a home for their cat or dog. An adoption application is accessible on the site, as well as a lot other useful tips. Find out about dog training. Look at photographs, read bios, and watch videos of Bellwether's amazing pets. Get the latest news with activities or just read up on shelter news. There is also an online volunteer application and a calendar of events.