

PAWSITIVELY SPEAKING

News and Information from  Central Texas Animal Hospital

SERVICE SPOTLIGHT

Professional Cat and Dog Grooming

Janice and Michael offer full-service grooming options. Your cat or dog might just need a bath and a good brush out. Or, we can do a complete shave – a “summer cut.” Either way, we’ll make sure that your pet is feeling and looking great.

Regular grooming helps to keep your pet clean, comfortable and healthy. Included in every groom is:

- Bath
- Flea and Tick check, treatment as needed
- Eyes and ears cleaned
- Nail trim
- Anal gland expression
- Haircut or shave as needed/requested
- Brush out as needed
- Pet cologne, and a tulle (only your grandmother knows what “tulle” is) or ribbon bow

If the groomer notices any abnormalities, he or she will inform you so you may have it evaluated by a veterinarian.

Call us today to schedule a grooming for your pet!

I just celebrated my 25th anniversary at CTAH. WOW, what a great career. The grooming department has grown tremendously over the last 25 years. As I reflect, I think about the pets that have come and gone, my personal ones and yours. I remember the early days when I would help if there was an emergency in the clinic, and my favorite – when we did a c-section – I loved to bring the puppies into the world. I have learned so much over the years and I appreciate the confidence you have in me. I have always aimed to do the best job I could and I am blessed by God to have been here so long. CTAH is a loving group of people. We care about each other and the pets you send our way. So, long story short, thank you Pflugerville for the last 25 and the... next 25?

Janice



The bad news..... Canine Heartworm Disease is deadly.

The good news.... Canine Heartworm Disease is PREVENTABLE!

All dogs are at risk for heartworms, which are carried by mosquitoes. Even if your dog rarely goes outside, HE IS AT RISK!

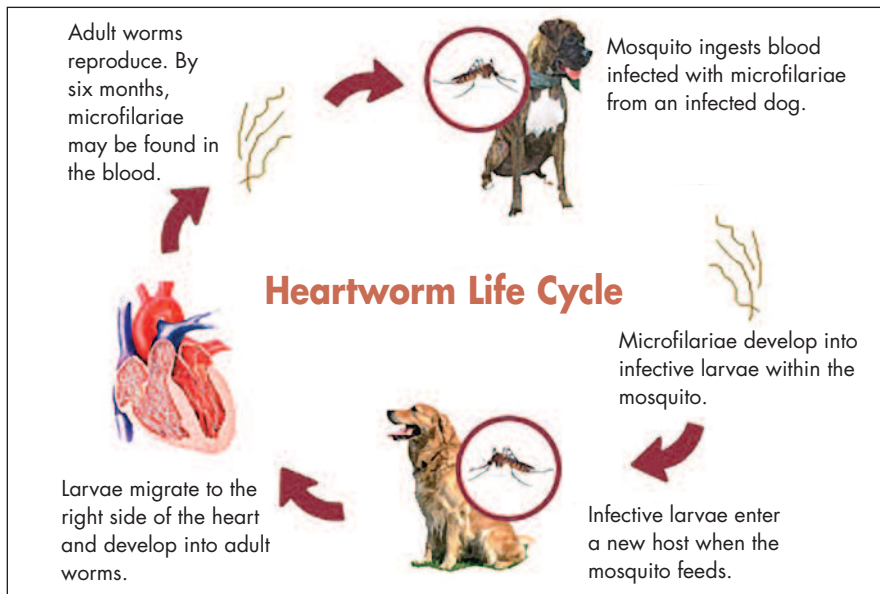
When a mosquito takes a blood meal from a heartworm-infected animal, it picks up baby worms (microfilaria). The microfilaria develop into larvae, which the mosquito then carries to another animal. These larvae will mature into adult heartworms in about 6 months. Mature heartworms can live and reproduce in a canine host for 5-7 years. Heartworms can grow to be a foot long.

In the early stages of canine heartworm disease, there are rarely symptoms. Eventually, an infected dog may suffer a mild cough, fatigue, weight loss, and inappetence. Over time, a dog can develop heart failure and a swollen abdomen from the fluid that accumulates.

We generally use an antigen test, to detect a specific protein that is released into a dog's bloodstream by an adult female heartworm. We can also test for microfilaria by looking directly at a blood sample under the microscope.

When we see a positive heartworm test, we will perform diagnostics to determine the dog's fitness for treatment. We do thoracic radiographs to check for enlargement of the heart. We also send a blood sample to a lab to confirm the positive heartworm test and to check values that indicate the dog's overall health before treatment is started.

Heartworm treatment involves injecting a



chemical compound deep into the back muscles. The treatment is split into 2 visits, one month apart. We spread them out to avoid killing too many worms at once, which could cause circulatory shock. During the treatment and the months that follow, the dog must be kept very still. This is to try to avoid

complications that can be caused when pieces of the dying worms circulate through the dog's blood.

Heartworm treatment is costly and is not without risk.

The best thing for our dogs is to keep them on heartworm prevention all year round.

Heartworm Prevention

Easy – monthly chew or an injection that lasts for 6 months.

Affordable – The COST of heartworm prevention = \$6 – \$10 per month

Heartworm Treatment

Several months of harsh treatment, including strict cage rest and several trips to the hospital.

Costly – The COST of heartworm treatment = \$800 – \$1200

We offer several easy ways to protect your dog:

TriHeart Plus – chewable monthly tablet – \$28-51 for a 6-month supply

Trifexis – chewable tablet – \$108-121 for a 6-month supply. Includes flea control

ProHeart6 – Injection that lasts for 6 months - \$29-55

Why do cats purr?

We know that cats purr when they are happy. But did you know that purring is not always a sign of being content? Cat owners can sometimes recognize different types of purrs that indicate hunger or happiness.

Kittens can purr when they're only a few days old. It's probably a way for mother and babies to communicate.

Research and clinical experience reveal that that sounds with the same frequency as purring can heal bones and wounds and reduce inflammation. So, purring can be a healing mechanism.

Purring can also be associated with the release of endorphins, which may explain why cats purr when they are happy and when they are in pain. We think that purring is self-soothing.

There are certain aspect of purring that are not well understood. According to Carolyn McDaniel, a veterinarian at the Cornell Feline Health Center "We can do an MRI on a cat, treat its cancer with chemotherapy, control its asthma with inhalant therapy, but we can't explain its purring mechanism." Perhaps some things are better left a mystery.



Did you know that we offer boarding?

We have indoor runs and cages, so dogs are in air-conditioned (or heated) comfort. They are let out – individually or with other family members – at least twice a day.

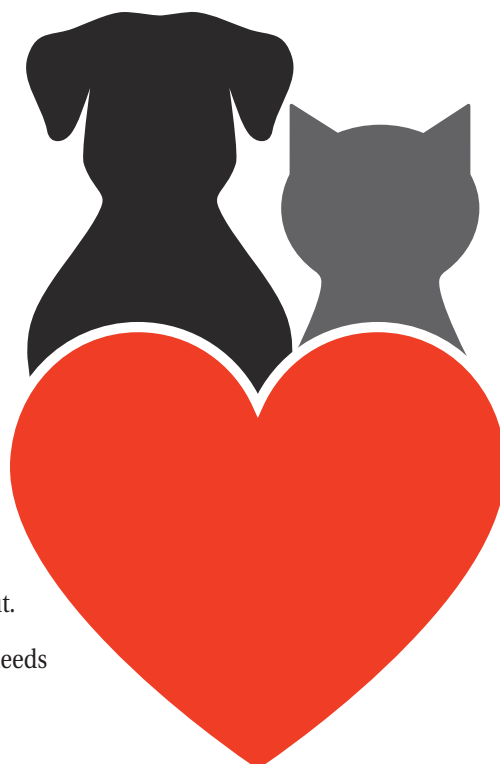
Cats are kept in a quiet, separate area.

All of our boarders are given clean, comfortable bedding and are fed quality food. Of course, you are welcome to bring your pet's food from home.

You might also choose to have your pet groomed while he or she is staying with us.

We also offer Sunday boarding check out.

Let our caring staff tend to your pet's needs while you're away.



DENTAL DISCOUNTS ARE BACK!



Your pet's dental health matters!

NOT having your pet's teeth professionally cleaned can lead to:

- Bad Breath
- Sore, infected gums
- Gum, tooth and bone loss
- Infection that can spread to heart, liver, kidneys
- Extractions (\$\$\$ and pain)

**Call today
for your appointment.**



**Central Texas
Animal Hospital**

*"Serving Texans for more than a century"
(In dog years)*

1200 Pecan Street West
Pflugerville, TX 78660

512.251.BARK

www.ctah.biz



Hours:

Monday – Friday: 7–6

Saturday: 8 – Noon

**For after-hours emergencies,
call the Emergency Animal
Hospital of Northwest Austin**

(512) 501-3916

www.eahnwa.com

Central Texas Animal Hospital
1200 Pecan Street West
Pflugerville, TX 78660

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dental Discounts are Back!				
20% off of Dental Cleaning	20% off of Dental Cleaning	20% off of Dental Cleaning	20% off of Dental Cleaning	20% off of Dental Cleaning
	20% off of Vaccines Mon – Thurs			
	Professional Cat and Dog Grooming by Janice and Michael Tuesday – Friday by appointment			
Saturday	Open every Saturday 8-noon			

Offer expires 2/19/16. Discount is applied only to dental cleaning. Does not apply to other tests/treatments/products.

1 in 3 pets will go missing.

Without proper identification, most will not be reunited with their families. A microchip is your pet's best chance to make it back home. A microchip is easy, safe, and affordable at just \$42 – and lifetime registration is included.

Microchip your pet Today!

