

Spring 2018

PLANNING A TRIP?

Let's discuss the importance of traveling safely with our pets. As we enter into the best time of the year with blue skies and lovely temperatures, we start to venture out with our fur babies to our favorite swimming holes and weekends away at the beach.

Pets must be secured in the car for their own safety as well as the safety of the human occupants. For dogs, fitted guards in wagons and 4WDS are ideal. Alternatively, a cage can be used, or harnesses which attach to the seatbelt buckle. There are also harnesses available for your dog to safely travel in the back of a ute. Make sure your dog is secured sufficiently that he will not distract the-driver.

Cats should be secured in a cage or carrier, which can be strapped in by a seatbelt for added safety. Never let the cat roam freely in the car as it may get under your feet, distract you, or hide under the seat and escape when you get out of the car. Line the carrier with newspaper or a towel to keep your cat comfortable. If you are planning a long trip, you will need a larger cage with room for a small litter box. Have water available for your cat and some dry biscuits.

Make sure your pet always wears its collar and ID tag, as well as being microchipped. Even if your pet is secure in the car, you should always be prepared for unforeseen situations. Keep a leash handy and secure it to your dog or cat's collar or harness before you get out of the car.

Rat Bait Poisoning!

At this time of the year, with the cane cutting season in full swing, we see a rise in rats and mice in and around our properties and to battle the infestation rat baits are most often used. Unfortunately, even well-placed baits sometimes end up being consumed by our very much-loved dogs and cats. Dogs, cats and other animals can be affected by ingesting rat bait directly or by ingesting rodents which have ingested rat bait just prior to death.

If you see your pet eating rat bait it is important to call your Vet immediately for advice as the condition is to be taken seriously as early treatment may be lifesaving. Symptoms that may relate to ingestion are:

- pale gums or small bruise like areas on the gums
- lethargy
- bruising under the skin
- blood in the urine or faeces
- bleeding from the nose
- continued bleeding from small wounds or cuts

If you have access to the name and details of the rat bait please bring this in with you or find out the name and active ingredients as this helps us to ensure correct treatment.

The Danger of Paralysis Ticks

The Paralysis Tick and the Brown Dog Tick are the two most common ticks on dogs. However, it is the Paralysis Tick that is by far the most dangerous. It causes paralysis in a variety of forms but a 'typical' case starts with weakness of the hindquarters that progresses to total paralysis of all four legs. Other typical early signs include an altered bark or meow and vomiting. When the chest muscles and muscles of the throat become affected, the dog or cat in serious trouble.

When a Paralysis Tick affects a pet, the pet often dies if left without prompt treatment. Preventing tick paralysis is a much safer and cheaper alternative than treating the condition once it has occurred.

**Talk to our Veterinary Staff
about suitable prevention for
your pet.**



“Have you thought about pet insurance?”



PET INSURANCE

If you do decide to select a pet insurance plan to cover veterinary bills, keep the following tips in mind.

1. Enroll your pet when they are young.
2. Research a Provider's credibility.
3. Consider how much coverage you want.
4. Read the fine print, especially exclusions.
5. Ask your Veterinarian for advice.

As there are so many companies offering pet insurance, it is a hard task to narrow them down to only a recommended few as they all vary.

When looking for the right policy take into consideration the above top tips and choose what best suits you, your budget and your pet.

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We are trying our hand at Facebook so we can share product updates and useful information for pet owners so please jump on our page and give us a like.



OCTOBER

IS DERMATOLOGY MONTH

Skin problems in dogs can cause a lot of discomfort and irritation, and can even reduce their quality of life. As there are many different causes of canine skin issues, along with a wide range of potential treatments, it is very important to follow up with your local vet. Book your dog in for a checkup and we will help you identify the causes of your dog's skin issue in order to give them

Talk to us about the Bravecto Spot-on range for your pets today!

Contact details are very important!

In the case of an emergency contact details are vital. If you think your details have changed please don't hesitate to contact us to confirm they are current and correct.

