

# East-West Animal Hospital

## May is aMAYzing!!!

### May 2011

#### How are we doing?

At East-West Animal Hospital we do our best to relay information on maintaining pet wellness with you, our treasured pet parents. You are the most important advocate for your pet. We eagerly welcome your questions, comments and suggestions. We are here to serve you and your pets. It is our goal to make your pets feel very comfortable and we want every visit with us to be a pleasant and enjoyable one. We look forward to prolonged, lasting relationships with each and every patient and pet parent. We encourage you to please give us feedback on your experiences here with us by sending us an e-mail testimonial or giving us a review online. We value your input and thank you for your continued support!

#### Reminders:

Brush your pet's teeth regularly, but please take note: DO NOT use human toothpaste. There is special toothpaste made specifically for animals that pets love, which is available for purchase here at the hospital. If you have any questions please call to schedule an appointment for an Oral Health Evaluation and pet oral healthcare demonstration. Let's keep working together to protect your pet's future health!

#### Seminar This Weekend:

Itchy and Scratchy with Dr. Odachowski  
Lecture is almost full, so call today to RSVP for this Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 10am until 11:30am.  
Your pet's itching may not be fleas; seasonal allergies can cause mild to severe discomfort in pets. Join us for this informative lecture to learn more. See you there!

#### Upcoming Seminar:

Thunder Storm Phobia with Dr. Register  
June 11, 2011 Starting at 10am  
RSVP now to reserve a spot!

#### East-West Animal Hospital Office Hours:

Monday and Friday: 7:30 am to 6:00 pm  
Tues, Wed and Thurs: 7:30 am to 8:00 pm

#### Contact Info:

Phone: 813-948-6534  
Fax: 813-949-5533  
1524 Land O' Lakes Blvd  
Lutz, FL 33549

#### Emergencies (8pm-6am):

Tampa Bay VES  
813-265-4043  
238 E Bearss Ave  
Tampa, FL 33613

#### Pet Odor Eliminator:



The full line of Odor Eliminator Products including Candles, Air Fresheners and Car Fresheners are now available for purchase at East-West Animal Hospital.

Odor Eliminator Candles are enzymatic candles specially formulated to attack and remove strong odors.



#### Urine-Off Cat Formula – Urine-Off Dog Formula

We offer many solutions to the problems that animal urine can cause. Veterinary strength Urine-Off is formulated to destroy urine, permanently removing urine from all hard and soft surfaces. Use the Urine Finder Mini-LED Light to reduce the frustration of finding smelly, invisible urine deposits. Special formulas address the needs of cat & kitten, dog & puppy, and small animals from gerbils to ferrets.

#### Changes to our Client Rewards:

The East-West Animal Hospital Rewards Card helps us reward valuable clients like you with products from our hospital and other local retailers, remember one dollar spent is one point. The best part of the program is that you earn **500** points when you refer other clients to our Hospital. Refer 2 clients and redeem your points to receive a **\$25 Gas Card!**

**SPECIAL Congratulations to Dr. Register for winning the GOLD STAR award from the Florida Veterinary Medical Association!**



### **May Flowers:**

Many pet owners are unaware that all species of Lily are potentially fatal to cats. When sending a floral arrangement to a recipient with a cat, specify that it is to contain no lilies. When receiving an arrangement, sift through and remove all dangerous flowers, stems or plants (see list below). If your pet is suffering from symptoms such as upset/painful stomach, vomiting or diarrhea, he may have ingested an offending flower or plant.



### **Toxic Plants:**

Azalea  
Bird of Paradise  
Daffodil  
English Ivy  
Foxglove  
Hyacinth  
Hydrangea  
Jimson Weed

Lantana  
Mandrake  
Mistletoe  
Morning Glory  
Nightshade  
Tulip  
Umbrella Plant

### **The Dangers of Summer:**

Leaving pets outside on hot days can put them in serious danger. Since dogs have only a limited ability to sweat, even a few minutes in a hot environment can be life-threatening. Temperatures inside a parked car can rapidly reach dangerous levels, even on relatively mild days, and even if the car is parked in the shade with the windows slightly open. Even though they provide shade, a dog house in direct sun, can heat up more than the ambient temperature, so please be sure to provide easy access to cool shade at all times. Veterinary medical attention is crucial if a pet shows signs of heat stroke, which includes excessive panting and drooling, listlessness or unconsciousness.

ALL pets, regardless of coat color, should always have access to cool shade and fresh cool water in the summer heat! To avoid overheating your pet, consider walking in the early morning or evening when it's cooler.

Also noteworthy are the long term effects of sun exposure, which may include skin cancers such as squamous cell carcinoma and malignant melanoma. Sun-block can be used, but please check with Dr. Register or Dr. Odachowski before applying. (This is especially true for puppies and pets with allergies.)

### **Bringing Color Back to the Lawn:**

"When landscaping your yard, please remember that animals are sensitive to topical parasiticides and weed killers."

Animals lick their paws after outdoor exposure, and many will frequently eat grass and soil, so it's extremely important to watch what goes onto your lawn. Some pets that already have allergies can experience a hypersensitivity to topical chemicals. Adverse reactions can mimic an anaphylactic reaction like vomiting, diarrhea, facial swelling, hair loss and labored breathing.

In addition to pesticides, careful evaluation of mulching agents should be considered. Coffee grounds are sometimes recycled in mulch. Coffee grounds contain the stimulant, methylxanthine, which dogs are highly sensitive to. If mulch is ingested, dogs can experience gastrointestinal upset, elevated heart and respiratory rates.

*Excerpts taken from article by Elizabeth Maimon, DVM, MPH  
Hills and Dales Veterinary Clinic, Kettering, Ohio*

### **Signs Your Pet Needs Attention Immediately:**

- Vomiting/Diarrhea
- Unintended weight-loss/gain
- Change in appetite-decreased or increased
- Change in normal activity level:
  - Lethargy
  - Hyperactivity
  - Restlessness
- Limping
- Sudden inability to move back legs or collapse
- Crying when touched
- Clumsy/disoriented behavior
- Seizures
- Any loss of consciousness
- Coughing (especially at night)
- Any difficult or labored breathing
- Any blue, purple, or pale hue to the tongue or gums
- Excessive drooling
- Change in urination:
  - Location
  - Frequency
  - Amount
  - Color
  - Smell
- Straining in the litter box without producing urine
- Panting in a cat
- Bloated abdomen
- Sneezing excessively
- Uncontrolled bleeding from any orifice
- Bruising anywhere
- Any unusual odor or hair loss
- Runny nose, eyes, or squinting