



Pet News

Spring-Summer Newsletter - 2010

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Hospital Hours:

Monday	8:00-6:00
Tuesday	8:00-6:00
Wednesday	8:00-8:00
Thursday	8:00-8:00
Friday	8:00-6:00
Saturday	9:00-5:00
Sunday	9:00-5:00

Services:

- Examinations
- Emergency consultation service after hours by pager
- Complete surgical, dental, radiograph, laboratory and diagnostic facilities
- Acupuncture
- Chiropractic
- Canine rehabilitation
- Canine Massage
- Nutritional counselling and prescription diets
- Effective flea products

Veterinarians:

Dr. Jennifer Chan
Dr. Glynis Newman
Dr. Sylvie Abrioux
Dr. Rachel Borwein
Dr. Natasha Drinnan

Spay & Neuter Rabbits

Just like dogs and cats, rabbits greatly benefit from being spayed or neutered. Rabbits are generally spayed or neutered around the time they reach sexual maturity, approximately 6 months of age. Some of the benefits include:

- **Prevention of Pregnancy**
There are countless unwanted rabbits in shelters and being abandoned in the wild. If your rabbit becomes pregnant many things can go wrong and chances are you will not be able to find good homes for all the babies. Breeding is best left to experienced breeders
- **Prevention of Uterine Cancer**
This is the most compelling medical reason to spay female rabbits. In some rabbit populations the rate of uterine cancer can approach 80%. Because this cancer is so prevalent, it is best to have female rabbits spayed.
- **Prevention of Uterine Disease**
There are many other infectious and inflammatory uterine diseases, which rabbits are prone to.
- **Prevention of False Pregnancy**
Female rabbits can go into a hormonal state triggered by their ovaries where the body acts as if it is pregnant but there is in fact no pregnancy present. Although this is not medically harmful, it can be very stressful for both the rabbit and her owner. During a false pregnancy, rabbits' behaviours include fur pulling, nest building, destructive digging, territorial aggression and milk production.

- **Prevention of Mammary Disease**
Mammary cancer is not common in female rabbits, but when it occurs it can spread rapidly and be very difficult to treat.
- **Prevention of Aggression**
Both male and female rabbits can display aggressive and territorial behavior when they are sexually mature. Many rabbits are sweet as babies, but when the 'teenage years' hit at around six to twelve months of age...watch out! They can become aggressive and territorial towards their human and bunny companions.
- **Prevention of Urine Spraying**
Both male and female rabbits can spray strong-smelling urine on vertical surfaces to mark their territory. Spayed and neutered rabbits are much less likely to do this.
- **Prevention of Testicular Disease**
Disease of the testicle is uncommon in the male rabbit, but it can occur. Most commonly we see trauma as a result of fighting between two bucks which often results in injury to the testicles. Abscesses, hematomas (blood filled areas), and cancer are also seen in unneutered males.



Plants that are Poisonous for Pets

When choosing plants for your home and garden be sure to check that they are pet-safe. Many cats and dogs will dig, chew on, and ingest plants in their environment. The following is a list of common house and garden plants that are poisonous to pets:

Alfalfa (multiple exposures)	Elaine	Oriental Lily (cats!!!)
Aloe Vera	Elephant Ears	Peace Lily
Amaryllis	Emerald Feather	Peach (wilting leaves and pits)
Apple (seeds)	English Ivy	Pencil Cactus
Apple Leaf Croton	Fiddle-leaf fig	Plumosa Fern
Apricot (pit)	Florida Beauty	Poinsettia (low toxicity)
Asparagus Fern	Foxglove	Poison Ivy
Autumn Crocus	Fruit Salad Plant	Poison Oak
Avocado (fruit and pit)	Geranium	Pothos
Azalea	German Ivy	Potato Plant (green fruit, stem and leaves)
Baby's Breath	Giant Dumb Cane	Precatory Bean
Bittersweet	Glacier Ivy	Primrose
Bird of Paradise	Gold Dieffenbachia	Red Emerald
Branching Ivy	Gold Dust Dracaena	Red Princess
Buckeye	Golden Pothos	Red-Margined Dracaena
Buddist Pine	Hahn's Self-Branching Ivy	Rhododendron
Caladium	Heartland Philodendron	Ribbon Plant
Calla Lily	Hurricane Plant	Saddle Leaf Philodendron
Castor Bean	Indian Rubber Plant	Sago Palm
Ceriman	Janet Craig Dracaena	Satin Pothos
Charming Dieffenbachia	Japanese Show Lily (cats !!!)	Schefflera
Cherry (seeds and wilting leaves)	Jeusalem Cherry	Silver Pothos
Chinese Evergreen	Kalanchoe	Spotted Dumb Cane
Christmas Rose	Lacy Tree Philodendron	String of Pearls
Cineraria	Lily of the Valley	Striped Dracaena
Clematis	Mother-in Law's	Sweetheart Ivy
Cordatum	Tongue	Swiss Cheese Plant
Corn Plant	Madagascar Dragon Tree	Taro Vine
Cornstalk Plant	Marble Queen	Tiger Lily (cats!!!)
Croton	Marijuana	Tomato Plant (green fruit, stem and leaves)
Cuban Laurel	Mexican Breadfruit	Tree Philodendron
Cutleaf Philodendron	Miniature Croton	Tropic Snow Dieffenbachia
Cycads	Mistletoe	Weeping Fig
Cyclamen	Morning Glory	Yew
Daffodil	Narcissus	
Devil's Ivy	Needlepoint Ivy	
Dieffenbachia	Nephtis	
Dracaena Palm	Nightshade	
Dragon Tree	Oleander	
Dumb Cane	Onion	
Easter Lily (cats!!!!)		

If you believe your pet has ingested any of these plants please call your veterinarian immediately.

For more information about keeping your pets safe from poison and a list of pet-safe plants, visit the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center website at: <http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/poison-control/>

Your Pet Photos!

If you have visited our hospital recently, you may have noticed the TV in our reception area. Our clients have been sending us their favourite pet photos to be displayed on the DVD slideshow. If you have photos to submit please email them to communications@hillsidevethospital.com. Here are just a few of the great pictures we have received!



Manou



Baily



Mitzi