



Copthorne Veterinary Clinic

NEWS

Be Careful!



Signs to watch out for are

Vomiting - Diarrhoea

Drooling - Frothing - Panting - Restless - Increased temperature

Depressed - Lethargic - Dehydrated - Muscle tremors - Convulsions

For example: **Cocoa Mulch** used on gardens, smells very appealing to dogs but does contain '**theobromine**' which is poisonous, as is the toxic chemical '**metalddehyde**' found in **slug pellets**.

If your pet should get **creosote, oil or lily pollen** on its coat, this can be ingested as it licks to remove the product.

Detergents, antifreeze, weed killers, rat/mice bait all pose a serious danger to our pets. If you think your pet has swallowed or come into contact with a poisonous substance contact your vet **IMMEDIATELY**.

Try to identify What, How much & When. Any information will help. If possible take the pack and source of poison with you.

Have you woken up from winter hibernation yet? Well it may still be a little chilly outside, but the garden jobs are mounting up and the cobwebs in the corner are reminding us that it's spring-cleaning time too. With all these chores to keep us busy, it's very important to remember the safe use and storage of garden and household products, as some are very **poisonous** to our pets. They are well known for sniffing out and eating the strangest of things - from socks to slug pellets!

Poison is a harmful substance your pet either comes into contact with, or which enters its body. Digesting or just absorbing poisons through the skin, can cause a wide range of symptoms from minor stomach upsets to heart and breathing problems. Sadly in some cases, it can be fatal.

Safety Checklist Carefully read the instructions on the use and storage of home, garden, DIY and car products. ✓

Provide 'animal proof' storage for these products. Remember cats can climb, jump and balance extremely well, and the most determined dog will get that cupboard open! ✓

Try to become aware of products, foods and plants that are poisonous. Your library and the web are a good source of information. ✓

As always we're here to help, so do not hesitate to contact us for advice.

Pop your pet along to our Nurse Clinics

Spring is in the air and along with it, the return of two familiar faces here at Copthorne Veterinary Clinic. You may have noticed that Sam Carpenter RVN has returned to work from maternity leave, and Corinne George RVN is on our team again after spending two years living in Wiltshire. We're sure you'll join us in giving them a warm welcome back.

Our now expanded team of qualified Veterinary Nurses offers an excellent Nurse Clinic Service. Appointments can be made for advice on various aspects of pet healthcare, ranging from nail-clipping and parasite control to monitoring our diabetic and senior patients. The clinics are not only beneficial for your pet but also informative and interesting for you. So if you would like full details of our clinics and services available, please contact the surgery or pop in for a chat with one of our nurses. We look forward to meeting you and your pet.



INCONTINENCE Sphincter muscles hold urine in the bladder until your pet needs to wee. Sometimes when resting or sleeping the muscles relax a little and there's a 'leak'. Don't despair at the damp patches though, as incontinence can be treated or controlled.

ITCHING Excessive scratching may be a sign that your pet has a problem, such as a hotspot, food allergy, fleas or an earmite infestation requiring treatment.

JOINTS Cartilage protects and covers the ends of bones in movable joints. If this wears away, the bones rub together and can cause painful inflammation. Keep an eye on your pet's mobility, as any sign of stiffness should be investigated.

JOKE What did the flea say to his wife as they came out of the movies? Shall we walk home or take the dog!

Copthorne

Opening Hours

Weekdays

8.30am - 7pm

Saturday

9am - 12noon 4pm - 5pm

Sunday 9am - 10am

Consultations by appointment

01743 360614

EMERGENCY HOURS SERVICE

vetsnow

A Right Ticking Off!

The thought of something attached to our skin, sucking blood is truly what nightmares are made of! However, there really are such creatures alive on our planet- **ticks**. Ticks can be found in long damp grass, by riverbanks and woodlands. These blood-sucking parasites require a host to attach to and feed from while completing each stage in their development. So while your dog is out exercising or your cat is exploring, a tick or two could choose your pet for breakfast, dinner and tea! These bloodsuckers are only tiny when they climb onto and attach their mouths into your pet's skin, but after a few days of heavy feeding they become engorged with blood.

Ticks can cause *irritation *soreness *skin problems *infections

Not only are ticks very unpleasant for your pet, but they can also transmit infectious diseases such as **Lyme Disease**, and as many pets now travel abroad, **Ehrlichiosis** and **Babesiosis**.

Prevention Check your pet regularly and thoroughly particularly after walks. Use a protective treatment against ticks. If you find a tick, pulling it out incorrectly could leave body parts behind, which can cause infections, so it is best to call your vet for advice.



Top Teeth Tips

Brush your pet's teeth regularly.

Start brushing when pets are young.

Use a soft toothbrush with special 'animal' toothpaste.

'No', to human toothpaste the fluoride content is harmful to pets.

Feed your pet a good quality well-balanced diet.

Give approved slightly abrasive oral chews.

Bring you pet for regular dental checks.

Calling all pet owners! **March is Oral Care Month** Bring your pet along to the surgery for a **FREE Dental Check-up**. We'll examine your pets' teeth, have a chat about how to prevent dental disease, and give a **FREE goodie bag** for you and your four-legged friend to take home! Keep an eye out for adverts in magazines and on TV. If you need further information or would like to book your **FREE** dental check appointment, please contact the surgery where our friendly staff will be happy to help.

For a Shiny Grin & Sweet Breath



www.shrewsburyvets.com

There are products available to protect and treat the problem of ticks. Please contact us and we can advise on one suitable for your pet.

www.shrewsburyvets.com

starring the familiar faces who care for your pets

If you've not yet visited our newly improved website, then log on to www.shrewsburyvets.com where you'll find plenty of information on us, our facilities, services, where we are, opening times, contact details and much more. Browse through our pages at your leisure, to see what we can provide for you and your pet. Follow the link to an **online pet shop** where you can purchase discounted pet food and accessories to be collected from the practice the next day, or have a look at our latest news to find out what's been happening at Copthorne Veterinary Clinic. We hope you will find the website easy to navigate and a source of useful and current information. We look forward to your visits to our surgeries but in the meantime if you have any thoughts, queries, or suggestions about what you would like to access on our new-look website, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Happy browsing!



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