

Advice for keeping pets healthy

To the community,

Give your pets the protection they need. Every dog or cat can “host” parasites and you may not even know about it. Even indoor pets can be exposed.

Regular examinations and preventive medications can help protect your pets from fleas, ticks, heartworms, and intestinal parasites like roundworms and hookworms. Don't leave your pet unprotected from these predators:

Ticks and Fleas:

Ticks and fleas are blood-drinking parasites that can also cause serious illness in pets. Ticks can transmit infections like Lyme disease, and fleas can transmit tapeworms and cause allergies. You can sometimes see ticks or fleas on your pet, but for the most part, they are very difficult to find. A veterinary examination can detect ticks or fleas on your pet, and monthly medication can control them.

Heartworms:

Heartworms are transmitted by mosquitoes, and they can infect dogs and cats. Even indoor pets aren't completely safe from heartworms, since 25 percent of heartworm infected cats live completely indoors. Heartworms can damage the lungs and heart, and can even cause death. Fortunately, heartworm preventive medications can protect your pets from these dangerous parasites.

Intestinal Parasites:

Hookworms, roundworms, and other intestinal parasites can harm pets. Some of these parasites are even transmissible to

humans, so preventing parasites in your pets also helps protect children and other family members. A veterinary examination and routine fecal testing can identify intestinal parasites, and many monthly heartworm preventive medications safely and effectively control them.

Sincerely,

The doctors and staff at Sierra Veterinary Hospital, Carson City