



## Summer is Here and so is the heat!

Greetings!

Greetings, friend of Alvin Animal Clinic. It is time once again for our monthly newsletter. Sorry it is a little late, but June is starting off at a fast pace at the clinic. It's a great thing, and we always look forward to our summer rush. We wanted to announce that anyone that has not been in the clinic recently may not be aware that Dr. Hoffpauir is pregnant with her second child. She is expecting to deliver late July or early August. Therefore we wanted all of our clients to be aware that she will be out on maternity leave beginning July 19th until September 6th. There will be relief veterinarians working in her place, and we will do everything we can to make sure your needs are accommodated during this time. One of the relief veterinarians is Dr. Zoo who has been in often times before when Dr. Hoffpauir or Dr. West have been out. Hopefully that will at least be a familiar face for most of you. Please be sure to let us know your experience with any relief veterinarian we have working with us because we only want to work with the doctors that fit our practice best.

### Heat Stroke

During the month of June our focus will be on heat stroke. It is that time of year when our patients are going to be most susceptible to this problem. Remember that dogs and cats do not have sweat glands all over their bodies. They can only sweat through the pads of their feet. Otherwise they relieve themselves from hot temperatures by panting which is not very efficient especially for larger dogs. Therefore, it is very important that they are not left in hot temperatures for very long. They should never be left in a car even with the air conditioner running. The temperature inside a vehicle during the summer can reach numbers above 100 degrees in a matter of minutes. Any animal that is kept outside must be provided with water at all times and shelter from the heat. If it is too hot for us to be out, then it is definitely too hot for your pet without relief from the heat.

Heat stroke can come on very suddenly since cats and dogs cannot cool themselves very quickly. Sometimes it only takes minutes. If you notice your pet is very lethargic, shaking, panting loudly and/or heavily, drooling, or just not

responding to you as usual after being in a hot area he may be suffering from heat stroke. It is important that you try and cool him off a bit as soon as you can. You can do this by holding a cool towel around him, soaking the pads of his feet with rubbing alcohol, and/or spraying him with a water hose. Before using your water hose, however, always make sure it has not been sitting in the sun because that will cause the water coming out of it to be very hot at first. Test your water before spraying it on your pet. You do not want to chill your pet too much by placing him in an ice bath or cold water bath. The temperature change from very hot to very cold can be too shocking for their bodies to handle. After cooling down your pet, please call us immediately to see about bringing him in to see a veterinarian. Patients with heat stroke need to be seen as soon as possible by a veterinarian. Most likely your pet will need to stay in the hospital for at least a day with fluids running to regulate the body temperature. Just give us a call as soon as you can after attempting to cool them down. Hopefully this unfortunate situation will not happen to your pets this summer.

#### New Science Diet Formula

We wanted to take some time to make everyone aware of a new food formula offered by Science Diet. Some of you may already be using prescription diet, J/D for your dogs with any arthritis issues. If you are not and are interested in trying it, it has now been reformulated to better fit your dog's needs and tastes. There is also a new formula available for cats. Please ask one of our staff members today.

In closing, remember that we always welcome your comments, critiques and criticisms. We would not be a business without our wonderful clients, so we always want to make sure we are meeting your needs. If you have not had an opportunity to check out website yet, please do. We have added a new feature to the page as well; an email just for appointments. If you prefer to make your appointments via email please use this email link. It provides you with a form to fill out regarding your appointment requests and is separate from our regular email account. A staff member will contact you within 48 hours of your appointment request to confirm or reschedule according to your needs. For your convenience, we have added a link in this edition of the newsletter, <http://www.alvinanimalclinic.com/eappointments.shtml>.

For any other questions or comments continue to use our gmail account.

We hope you continue to find our newsletters and now the e-appointments useful tools.

Ask about our referral program which benefits you and your friends!

Sincerely,

Your Alvin Animal Clinic Team

Email Marketing by

