



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

It's hard to believe, but a year has gone by since we first opened our doors. We would like to thank all of our clients, friends, and neighbors for making that first year such a wonderful experience for us all! The George Family and everyone at Deerfield Veterinary Clinic is grateful for the overwhelming welcome we've received from everyone. We look forward to many more years of helping you and your pets while we continue to grow and offer the newest advancements in veterinary medicine!

In that thought, Dr. George, Jenni, and Allison will attend the North American Veterinary Conference in Florida from Friday, January 16 through Sunday, January 25, 2009. Here, we will be taking numerous classes for small animals, horses, and livestock. Allison will be attending a small animal advanced dentistry lab and Dr. George is looking forward to a full day lab where he will learn to repair tendon and ligament injuries in dogs. Ruthanne, Ruth, and Rick will stay behind to answer the phones and allow people to pick up prescriptions during limited office hours.

To continue to best serve you, we will be mailing out a survey at the beginning of the year to all current clients. Please take some time to honestly answer the questions and return them as quickly as possible so we can make any changes necessary to keep you, our valued clients, happy with the service you receive.

Thank you again and Happy Holidays,
Simon, Jenni, and Elayna George
And The Staff of Deerfield Veterinary Clinic

Hours of Operation

Mon—Wed: 8am—6pm Thurs: 8am—8pm
Fri: 8am—5pm Sat: 8am—Noon
24-Hour Emergency On-Call 7 Days a Week



Laynie watches her dad and Alli during a surgical procedure.



How to Keep Pets Safe During The Holidays

The crazy holidays are upon us and it's easy to forget about all the new things in the house that could be an added hazard to our four-legged little ones. Here are just a few things to be aware of. You can find a more complete downloadable list by visiting the "Articles" section on our website at www.deerfieldvetclinic.com.



Decorations: Tinsel and ribbon can cause big problems with cats and some dogs. Accidental ingestion may result in serious obstructions that could lead to surgery. Try to keep these off the floor where they may be too tempting for pets to play with.



Rock Salt and Antifreeze: As the weather gets colder, pets are more likely to be exposed to these items. Normal formulas are toxic to animals, but you can find non-toxic formulas of both. While many animals do not purposefully eat rock salt, it can get stuck to their paws which they lick clean after coming inside. And, antifreeze is very tasty to pets, so any spills should be cleaned up immediately.



People Food: While we enjoy all the delicious treats available during this festive season, it's very tempting to share just a little with our pets. Certain foods, such as chocolate, raisins, grapes, and onions, should never be fed to animals. And other foods can cause diarrhea and vomiting as any small change in diet can cause an upset stomach. Also, be aware that turkey bones splinter easily and can perforate the stomach and intestines if ingested. Stick to veterinary approved treats for your pets to avoid any emergency calls.

Cold and Flu Medication: Medicine that can take care of our aches and sniffles can be very dangerous to dogs and cats. Never give any prescription or over-the-counter medication to pets and keep them out of reach of all children and animals.





Simon Says...

“Should I put a blanket on my horse during the winter?”

- submitted by Jess Peterson

Horses have survived for thousands of years without blankets. If given the chance, horses will develop a very thick winter coat that can effectively keep them warm during the most severe weather. This coat will begin to grow as the fall weather changes and will continue to grow if the horse is not blanketed.

However, it is important during cold, wet weather that horses get appropriate shelter to prevent frost bite and hypothermia. This means a dry place where they can be protected from the wind and cold rain.

Some people prefer not to let horses grow a winter coat due to training and the possibility of overheating with a thicker coat. In these situations, the horse can be shaved on it's undercarriage (the underside of the neck, chest, and abdomen). This allows a horse to cool down more efficiently.

Other tips for happy horses and livestock in the winter:

- Keep bedding dry, especially because they spend more time inside during the colder months.
- Offer lukewarm water twice a day. Animals tend to drink less water in the winter. This can lead to dehydration and digestive issues. Unlike us, animals do not appreciate ice in their water. Also, be aware that electric water heaters can be a serious fire hazard and should be used with great caution.

Do you have a question for Dr. George that you think other people may want to know the answer to? Please submit your question by calling the office or emailing us through our website.

Meet Another New DVC Face

We are very excited to introduce our new receptionist, Ruthanne “Thann” Durgin. Thann has lived in Deerfield with her husband and two daughters since 1985. She has nearly eight years experience in the veterinary field and has a lifetime of personal experience with dogs, cats, draft horses, saddle horses, and plenty of other pets. Thann spends her summers and falls pulling horses with her family. For more on Thann and our other staff, please visit the biographies section on our website.





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Laughter Is The Best Medicine

A snail decided to visit the city one day. While taking in the sites, he was mugged by a gang of turtles. When he came around, he found the nearest police officer as soon as possible.

The policeman said, "Now tell me what happened."

The snail replied, "I'm not sure, it all happened so fast."

-Submitted by Matt Brunault

Merry Chirstmas, Matt!

Submit your appropriate animal related jokes by emailing us through our website