

Maribyrnong Veterinary Clinic

• 95A Rosamond Road, Maidstone • Tel (03) 9318 3349



“MARIBYRNONG VET TAILS” - SPRING 2006

Spring Kittens – Too many kittens, not enough homes

Kittens are so cute and lovable aren't they? So why is it that there are tens of thousands of kittens surrendered to shelters each year with more than 50% never finding a loving home? The problems stems from sexually mature cats that have not been desexed. Did you know that one undesexed male and female cat, and all their offspring can produce more than 11 million kittens in less that 9 years? That's a LOT of kittens looking for homes.



The simple way to prevent unwanted litters is to have your cat desexed before it's first season (between 5-6 months of age). This includes male cats also. It “takes two to tango”, and a male cat can impregnate numerous females in one day!

Desexing also has many other benefits including:

<i>Female benefits</i>	<i>Male benefits</i>
Reduced risk of cystic ovaries, ovarian tumors, acute uterine infections and mammary cancer.	Reduced risk of testicular cancer and prostate cancer/disorders.
No nutritional or physical exhaustion from pregnancy and raising of kittens.	Less likely to roam from home in search of mates (reduces risk of car accidents etc...)
Females no longer go on “heat”, eliminating messy discharges and the urge to find a mate.	Reduces the territorial behaviour that can lead to urine spraying.

If you have any questions about desexing, or to book your cat in to be desexed, please call us at the clinic on 9318 3349, or drop in to have a chat with us.

Avoid The Bites Of Parasites!

As parents of our furry little friends, we all love giving our pets hugs and cuddles and spending time in close contact. Many of us even spoil our pets and let them sleep with us on the couch or even in the bed! While there are numerous benefits to living in close contact with pets (and we highly encourage you to do so), it is also important to understand the importance of ensuring your pets are not passing on illnesses to yourself and your family. Ensuring that your pets are up to date with their intestinal worming and flea treatments not only keeps your pets parasite free, but prevents the related illnesses that can be passed onto humans.

Fleas: are a huge nuisance that can live on your pet and in it's environment and will also bite humans. Ouch!

Roundworm: are the most common of intestinal worms and if passed to humans can cause an infection known as "Visceral Larva Migrans", which may result in inflammation of muscle tissue and blindness (especially in children).

Hookworm: are blood sucking intestinal parasites that can burrow into the soles of human feet or the legs, causing a red and itchy lesion. It can then cause "Cutaneous Larva Migrans" and is known to cause



abdominal pain, diarrhoea and chronic intestinal bleeding in small children.

Tapeworm: is transmitted to pets and humans via accidental ingestion of fleas, flea larvae or flea pupae and is more common in children than adults. The best prevention against tapeworm infection is flea treatment.

Here at Maribynong Veterinary Clinic we offer a range of procedures and services:

<i>Vaccinations & health check-ups</i>	<i>X-ray facilities on site</i>
Routine desexing surgery	Soft tissue & orthopaedic surgery
Extensive pharmacy, premium pet food & range of products	Modern anaesthetic equipment & patient monitoring
Weight control clinic	Emergency consultations/24 hour service
Blood testing & laboratory diagnosis	Veterinary house-calls & pet pick-up
Puppy socialisation & behaviour advice	Dental scale/polish, extractions & preventative care

For further information on any topic covered in this newsletter, please contact the clinic on (03) 9318 3349
Opening hours: Mon – Fri 8:00am – 7:00pm, Sat 9:00am – 5:00pm, Sun 10:00am – 4:00pm
