# PROTECT YOUR PET

## FLEA & TICK CONTROL

Protect your pet, family and home from flea and tick infestations with your veterinarian's guidance before the season starts.

Your veterinarian has the most UP-TO-DATE and effective products

#### Why worry about fleas?1

- Fleas are the most commonly found parasite on pets
- Fleas bite and take a blood meal
- Flea bites can cause intense itching and an allergic reaction
- A heavy infestation of fleas can cause severe anemia and even death
- Animals living indoors can have fleas year-round
- Fleas can jump on humans to feed
- Fleas can act as the intermediate host of tapeworms

### Why worry about ticks?1

- Ticks attach to animals and humans and take a blood meal
- The tick feeds by inserting its mouthparts into its host
- Tick-borne diseases are spread when tick saliva transmits disease organisms into the body and bloodstream
- Tick-borne diseases in animals and humans include:
  - Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever
  - Lyme Disease

### HEARTWORM PREVENTION

#### Why worry about heartworms?1

Heartworms are spread by mosquitoes

- When left untreated, heartworms will infect the heart, liver, lungs
- Damage from Heartworms includes:
  - Obstructing blood flow, causing vessels to clot
  - Interfering with heart mechanics
  - Liver failure with jaundice
  - Spontaneous bleeding
  - Anemia
  - Death

Treatment can be difficult and dangerous—Prevention is much easier and more effective

Your veterinarian has the most UP-TO-DATE and effective heartworm preventatives



#### Eggs and larvae must be destroyed to prevent reinfestation

# Common hosts of internal parasites:

Rodents
Fleas
Lice
Roaches

See your veterinarian for yearly testing to control parasites that pose a risk for family and pets

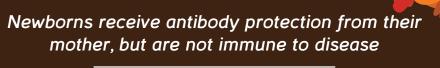
# INTERNAL PARASITES



#### Why worry about internal parasites?2

- Most animals have internal parasites
- Young animals can receive them through their mother's milk
- Heavy infestations can be deadly
- When one animal is infested, all animals in the same household will need treatment

# **VACCINATIONS**



Mothers that were never exposed or vaccinated against a disease will not pass on maternal antibody protection



#### Why worry about vaccinating?2

- Protect against diseases carried by unvaccinated animals, for example:
  - Canine parvovirus
  - Feline distemper
- Protect against diseases transmitted by wildlife, such as:
  - Rabies
  - Lyme disease
  - Leptospirosis





Resources:

1 Eldredge, D., Carlson, L., Carlson, D., Giffin, J. (2007). Dog Owner's Home Veterinary Handbook. 4th Edition. Hoboken, New Jersey: Wiley Publishing, Inc.

2 Eldredge, D., Carlson, D., Carlson, L., Giffin, J. (2008). Cat Owner's Home Veterinary Handbook. 3rd Edition. Hoboken, New Jersey: Wiley Publishing, Inc.