

# SUMMER

## Gwinnett Animal Hospital Newsletter 2012



Thanks to all who voted for us– we were voted “BEST OF GWINNETT” again for 2011! What an honor it is that you consider us “the best”. We hope we are exceeding your expectations in 2012 and that you will consider voting for us again this year. Voting is currently underway! Go to [www.BestOfGwinnett.com/best-of-gwinnett-voting](http://www.BestOfGwinnett.com/best-of-gwinnett-voting)



### ALLERGIES!

Summer can be a miserable time for allergies– both for humans and their animal friends alike.

Unlike people who sneeze and have itchy eyes, animals tend to show their seasonal allergies in their skin, feet, and ears. Animals can be allergic to most of the same allergens as humans: grass, pollen, dust, and bugs like fleas and mosquitoes. Common symptoms of allergies include licking or chewing the feet, rubbing or shaking the ears, or itching all over. Without appropriate treatment, this can lead to painful skin irritation and skin and/or ear infections.

There are many different ways to combat your pets discomfort, including antihistamines, supplements, medicated shampoos, prescription medications, and allergy shots.

*Friends don't let friends itch;  
Ask for some relief today!*

### FOCUS ON . . . . . Laparoscopic Surgery

Did you know that GAH offers laparoscopic spays, cryptorchid neuters, and abdominal biopsies?

Laparoscopy uses a small camera and special surgical instruments to see inside the body through small ports. This means less blood loss and smaller incisions for your pet, less pain, and a quicker return to activity.

For more information, visit our website at [www.GwinnettAnimalHospital.com](http://www.GwinnettAnimalHospital.com) or ask a staff member if laparoscopy is right for your pet's procedure.

### SUMMER SPECIALS

#### July

**\$20 off** a full blood profile for your pet during his wellness exam!

#### August

Dental disease is such a big problem for our furry friends, that during the month of August, we will take **15% off** your pet's dental cleaning!

### Summer Pet Care Tips

- 'Tis the season for fleas, ticks, and heartworms- make sure your pets are protected with their preventatives and are up-to-date on vaccinations.
- The outdoors is not the only thing pets get a fever for in the spring and summer– this is mating season! Make sure your pet is spayed or neutered so that they don't contribute to the overwhelming pet overpopulation problem.
- Warm weather means rain showers and sprinklers, which can leave puddles of standing water. Try not to let your dog drink out of puddles, as standing water can be filled with bacteria leading to gastrointestinal upset or ailments.
- Pets can get dehydrated quickly, so give them plenty of fresh, clean water when it's hot outdoors. Make sure your pets have a shady place to get out of the sun, be careful to not over exercise them, and keep them indoors when it's extremely hot.
- Never leave your animals alone in a parked vehicle. On a hot day, a parked car can become a furnace in no time- even with the windows open- which could lead to fatal heat stroke.
- When the temperature is very high, don't let your dog linger on hot asphalt. Being so close the ground, your pooch's body can heat up quickly, and sensitive paw pads can burn. Keep walks during these times to a minimum.
- Do not leave pets unsupervised around a pool or lake- ;not all dogs are good swimmers. Introduce your pets to water gradually and make sure they wear flotation devices when on boats.



#### Staff Member Spotlight:

DEB INMAN

Debbie is originally from Massachusetts and has been with GAH since 2007. She manages the kennel and you will frequently see her assisting in exam rooms. Debbie lives in Lawrenceville with her partner and two dogs; and in her spare time she likes crafts and scrapbooking.

