

Foxridge Mews & News



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TIME FLYS!

It's hard to believe it's April already! Spring is in full swing, and with it, the tick population is blossoming. See our article starting on page 2 for more on protecting your pet from these sneaky parasites. Also, plan to attend Foxridge Veterinary Care's first open house in May! More details can be found on page 2.



**REFERRAL
PROGRAM**

Refer someone to
Foxridge Veterinary
Care and both of you
will receive \$25 off
your next visit!

You're Invited!

FOXRIDGE OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, May 18th
11am-2pm

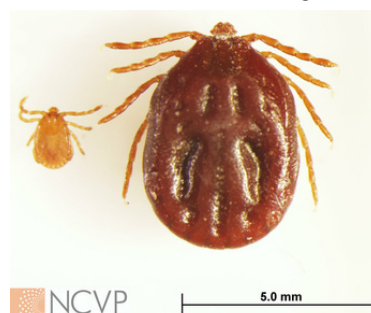
We are looking forward to inviting you into our clinic and giving you a "behind the scenes" look at the facilities and care we provide for your pet. There will be **food** for people and **treats** for our four-legged friends, **education** stations, and **games**. We will also have free **raffles and prizes!** The staff will be on hand to give **tours** and get to know you better. The whole family is welcome!

TICK TALK: DID YOU KNOW THAT...

1. There are 4 major tick species commonly found on pets in North America: deer ticks or black-legged ticks (*Ixodes*), lone star ticks (*Amblyomma*), American dog ticks or wood ticks (*Dermacentor*) and brown dog ticks (*Rhipicephalus*).
2. Longhorned ticks (*Haemaphysalis longicornis*) were accidentally introduced into the US in the last 10 years, and are now established in at least 19 states, affecting people, pets, and wildlife. While no confirmed reports of this tick have been made in Wisconsin, this tick species' range is expected to continue to expand westward from the East coast.
3. Cats are also at risk of infestation, and like dogs, can develop several tick-borne infections.
4. Every month is tick month! Ticks may be found "questing" (searching for a blood meal) any time the temperature is above 38 degrees F.
5. Except for the brown dog tick, the tick species mentioned above are sustained on wildlife populations, particularly white-tailed deer and rodents. Therefore, contact with the natural environment increases a pet's risk, but ticks can also be found in suburban and urban backyards.



Clockwise from top left: deer tick or black-legged tick, American dog tick or wood tick, longhorned tick, lone star tick, and brown dog tick. The larval (smallest), nymph, and adult male and adult female stages are shown for the four most common ticks, and the nymph and engorged adult female stages for the longhorned tick.



6. Even indoor pets can be at risk: ticks can hitch a ride into the home on clothing or the haircoat of other pets.
7. Brown dog ticks rarely affect wildlife and are almost exclusively found on dogs. They can survive long-term indoors in homes or kennels. While more common in the south and southeast, their range has been expanding.
8. We can test for some tick-borne diseases (Lyme disease, Anaplasmosis, and Ehrlichiosis) with a quick in-clinic test, which you may hear called a "SNAP test" or "4DX" or "Heartworm test", because it is a combination test for those three tick-borne diseases, plus heartworm.
9. Ticks generally have to be attached for a period of time before being able to transmit diseases, but the amount of time varies between diseases: it can be less than 8 hours for Anaplasmosis, or closer to 36-48 hours for Lyme Disease.
10. Your pet may not get sick until days or even months after the tick bite. Most tick-borne diseases cause fever, stiffness or lameness, lethargy, and loss of appetite. Severe cases can lead to brain inflammation (encephalitis) or kidney damage.

Canine Tick-Borne Diseases

Lyme Disease
 Anaplasmosis
 Ehrlichiosis
 Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever
 Hepatozoonosis
 Babesiosis
 Tick paralysis
 Hemobartonellosis
 Bartonellosis

Feline Tick-Borne Diseases

Hemobartonellosis
 Cytauxzoonosis
 Tularemia
 Ehrlichiosis
 Basesiosis
 Hepatozoonosis
 Anaplasmosis
 Lyme Disease (rare - cats are more resistant than dogs and humans)

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR PET

- Check your pet after they come in from outside. While ticks can be found anywhere, some of their favorite spots are around the head, neck, ears, and between the toes.
- Regularly mow your lawn, and keep your pet out of tall grass.
- Remove ticks properly: use tweezers to grasp the tick's head, as close to the skin as possible.
- Vaccinate your dog for Lyme Disease - while this vaccine isn't able to prevent 100% of cases, it can greatly reduce your dog's risk.
- Use effective flea and tick preventatives.
 - For dogs, we recommend Simparica Trio (monthly chewable tablet that also prevents heartworm and some intestinal parasites) or Bravecto (chewable tablet given every 3 months).
 - For cats, we recommend Revolution Plus (monthly "spot-on" liquid that also prevents heartworm and some intestinal parasites), Bravecto Plus ("spot-on" liquid applied every 2-3 months, based on your cat's lifestyle), or Credelio (monthly tablet)
 - Fleas and ticks have been showing increased resistance to over-the-counter topical products, so we recommend using the products discussed above.

revolution[®] PLUS 
 (selamectin and sarolaner topical solution)

Simparica TRIO 
 sarolaner/moxidectin/pyrantel

PET APPS FOR FUN AND FUNCTION



Along with the [MyPetsWellness](#) app (introduced in the February newsletter), there are a lot of cool apps out there to help pet parents! All of the following are free and available from both the Apple and Google app stores:



[Pet First Aid](#): April is Pet First Aid Awareness month! This app from the American Red Cross app gives reputable info on what to do in the most common emergency situations, when to call us, supplies to have in a pet first aid kit, and how to include your pet in emergency preparedness planning. It also has a pet care and pet-friendly hotel locator. Lots of images, step by step instructions, and videos.



[Cat Fishing 2](#) - This app is fun for your cat, and fun for you to watch! You start the app on your phone or tablet (a tablet is probably better if your cat gets very physical, as your phone may go flying), and your cat touches the swimming fish to score points. You can personalize the "pond" background and the types of fish (extra types are available if you sign up for the Friskies rewards club, as Purina developed the app). There is also sound with the animation, and the game "meows" if your cat hasn't touched the screen after 30 seconds.



[Bark Happy](#) - If you're looking for new places to explore with your dog, this is a great app. It shows the locations of restaurants, parks, hotels, stores, parks, and trails open to dogs. It also lists dog friendly events, and if you allow access to your phone location, shows you other dogs in the area that are open to playdates. I would also recommend the [Bring Fido](#) app to locate dog-friendly places, and the [AllTrails](#) app allows you to locate nearby parks and trails that allow dogs.



[Wooftrax](#) - Earn money for your favorite pet shelter or rescue by walking your dog! Good for you and your dog, and good for those helping rescue animals! Funding is provided by sponsors - the app is free. The app does require you to have your location setting on, in order to log how far you walk. It also allows you to switch which dog you're walking, if you have more than one dog. I wonder why there's not a cat version?



[Puppr](#) - If you're looking for help with dog training or a new puppy, this is a good app to check out. There are numerous videos showing how to use positive reinforcement to teach your dog, from basic leash training to advance tricks. It also has a puppy development timeline to help keep you on the right track. Some of the features of this app, such as live chats with trainers and the "masterclasses" do require a paid subscription. There is also a built-in clicker. Another app for training is [iTrainer Dog Whistle an Clicker](#) app (iOS only), which has clicker, dog whistle, squeaky toy, and over 100 animal sounds to use in training and getting your dog's attention.

GET TO KNOW THE STAFF: ANNA

Anna joined Foxridge Veterinary Care in November of 2019 while it was Janssen Clinic for Animals. Anna is a Certified Veterinary Technician and graduated in 2008 from MATC. Anna grew up in Blue River, WI on a small dairy farm. She previously worked as a veterinary technician at a clinic in Sauk City.

Anna loves interacting with all the clients and getting to know them and their furry family members. Anna has a particular interest in animal behavior and preventative care for pets. In 2021, Anna completed the Low Stress Handling course and is Silver Certified in order to better help patients.

Anna lives in Roxbury with her husband Josh, two children, German Shepherds: Kaulder (6 months) and Bosco (8 years), and many loved cats. When not working, Anna enjoys puzzles, gardening and baking.



Connect with us!

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