



Year-round prevention

Parasites can infect your pet any time of year. External parasites, such as fleas and ticks, may be less prevalent outside during certain times of the year; however, they often survive in the house during the winter months, creating an uninterrupted life cycle. Other internal parasites, such as intestinal parasites (worms), may affect your pet all year long. That's why it's important to consult with your veterinarian to implement a year-round parasite control program.

For more information about parasite control guidelines, ask your veterinarian or visit us at www.petsandparasites.org.

The Companion Animal Parasite Council

The Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPC) is an independent council of veterinarians and other health care professionals established to create guidelines for the optimal control of internal and external parasites that threaten the health of pets and people. It brings together broad expertise in parasitology, internal medicine, human health care, public health, veterinary law, private practice and association leadership.

For more information about how parasites may affect your pet, please visit us at www.petsandparasites.org.

CAPC Platinum Sponsors



CAPC Gold Sponsors

Merial

CAPC Silver Sponsors

Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health
Summit VetPharm VCA ANTECH

CAPC Guidelines are endorsed by:



Pets, Parasites & People



Companion Animal Parasite Council

www.petsandparasites.org

Pets, parasites and people

Dogs and cats are not just pets, they are treated like members of the family. And like any member of your family, it's important to keep your companion animal healthy and free of parasites.

It is fairly common for a dog or cat to become infected with an internal or external parasite at some point in its lifetime. Parasites can affect your pet in a variety of ways, ranging from simple irritation to causing life-threatening conditions if left untreated. Some parasites can even infect and transmit diseases to you and your family.

You can reduce the risk of parasitic infection to your family by:

- Eliminating parasites from pets.
- Restricting access to contaminated areas, such as sandboxes, pet "walk areas" and other high-traffic areas.
- Practicing good personal hygiene.

What is a zoonotic disease?

Zoonoses, or zoonotic diseases, are those diseases that can be transmitted directly or indirectly from animals to humans. For example, some worms can contaminate the soil where they serve as a risk to people as well as animals.

Parasites that may affect your pet include the following:

- Heartworms
- Roundworms
- Hookworms
- Whipworms
- Tapeworms
- Fleas
- Mites
- Ticks
- *Toxoplasma gondii*
- *Coccidia*
- *Giardia*

Tips to protect your family and your pet.

- Wash your hands well after any exposure to soil (gardening), sandboxes and raw meat.
- Eat only well-cooked meat.
- Wash fresh fruits and vegetables to eliminate contamination.
- Be certain to wash hands well after changing litter boxes.
- Supervise infants sitting on the ground or on the floor. Do not allow them to eat dirt or food that has fallen on the floor or ground.
- Pick up dog and cat feces from the yard daily.
- Cover sandboxes and play areas to prevent wildlife and strays from contaminating these areas.
- Take your pet to the veterinarian regularly and have your pet tested for parasites twice yearly.
- Deworm your cat or dog according to your veterinarian's recommendations.
- Administer year-round products as directed by your veterinarian to control parasites.

For more helpful tips, please visit us at www.petsandparasites.org or consult with your veterinarian.

