

ANIMAL AND AVIAN MEDICAL CENTER'S

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



We will be ringing in the New Year before you know it!

WINTER-PROOFING YOUR PET

Winter is an unfortunate fact of life here but we must still take some precautions to keep pets safe during this time.

- Antifreeze is extremely toxic!! With a sweet smell, it attracts various animals and causes nausea, vomiting and diarrhea when ingested. Without treatment, it attacks the kidneys and nervous system causing disorientation and eventually death. Call your veterinarian immediately if you think your pet could have ingested antifreeze!
- Short haired pooches, geriatric dogs and puppies are generally more susceptible to hypothermia. Never leave them outside unsupervised or for long periods of time. Their paws get cold quickly and some may refuse to walk through the snow. Small or thin coated dogs may benefit from a sweater or coat during walks.
- Use an animal safe de-icer. Many salts can irritate pet's paws, causing dryness and cracking. After a walk, gently wash your pet's paws with warm water to remove any unsafe salts or chemical de-icers.
- Trimming the hair around and between the pads will help prevent snow balls from accumulating and causing trauma to feet.
- Be diligent about clipping your dog's nails. Long nails will make it difficult for them to get traction on icy surfaces and can cause the legs to splay out which can be very painful!
- Be sure your pet is never wet outside. Take a towel with you on a walk to dry them as needed. A damp pet outside in winter can quickly lead to hypothermia!
- Do not let your pet drink water or slush near treated roads or sidewalks as it could contain chemicals used on the roads.
- For birds, be sure to keep them in a warm, humid environment. When we turn up the heat in the house, it dries out the air which makes it difficult for birds and can lead to many health issues.

CUTE FACE ALERT!!!

This month's cute face belongs to Snickers, a 3 year old mixed breed who seems to be able to make friends with everyone!!

NOTE: ANIMAL AND AVIAN MEDICAL CENTER WILL BE CLOSING EARLY ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3RD; SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24TH AND SATURDAY DECEMBER 31ST. WE WILL BE CLOSED ON DECEMBER 25TH.

Signs of Hypothermia

(Low body temperature)

- Shivering
- Lethargy
- Muscle stiffness
- Lack of coordination
- Low heart and breathing rates
- Fixed or dilated pupils
- Collapse
- Coma

What to do??

In the event of a mildly hypothermic pet (shivering), be sure to warm them up slowly. For severe hypothermia, call your veterinarian immediately.





Calendar of Events:

Friday December 2nd 5-8 PM: Pet pictures with Santa at Cuyahoga County Animal Shelter. Proceeds benefit Dick Goddard Best Friend's Medical Relief Fund. Cost is \$20. Go to www.cuyahogadogs.com for more information.

Saturday December 3rd 1-4 PM: Pet Photos with Santa at Paws by the Lake, 33757 Lake Rd., Avon Lake. All proceeds go to Love-A-Stray Non-Profit Rescue. Cost is \$10.

Sunday December 4th Noon-6 PM: Photos with Santa to benefit Berea Animal Rescue. Appointments recommended, walk-ins welcome. Zen Salon, 1870 W. 25th, Cleveland. Contact Pet-Tique at 216-631-2050 for information.

Sunday December 4th 10 AM- 4 PM: Pet pictures with Santa at Cuyahoga County Animal Shelter. Proceeds benefit Dick Goddard Best Friend's Medical Relief Fund. Cost is \$20. Go to www.cuyahogadogs.com for more information.

Sunday December 11th Noon-5 PM: Pictures with Santa. A portion of the proceeds to benefit Fido's Companion Rescue and Ziggy's Friends. Cost is \$10. Grateful Dog Bakery, 31966 Center Ridge Rd., N. Ridgeville. 440-353-1990

Sunday December 18th 1-5 PM: The Sanctuary for Senior Dogs Holiday Open House. Refreshments, raffle prizes, and gifts for the dog lovers on your list. The Sanctuary for Senior Dogs, Adoption & Education Center, 4681 Broadview Rd., Cleveland.

Sunday December 18th 11 AM-4 PM: Pet Pictures with Santa at Petsmart Medina. All proceeds benefit Medina County SPCA.