



Second QUARTER

2020

  **Leptospirosis**  

**Zoonotic Diseases:**

Zoonotic diseases are diseases that can be transmitted from animal to human.

**Leptospirosis:**

Leptospirosis is one of these diseases. It can affect many animals including dogs and humans. Leptospirosis is a disease that is caused by Leptospira bacteria. The bacteria can live for long periods of time in water. It can also be spread by infected urine and direct contact with an infected animal.

**How do dogs get Leptospirosis and what symptoms should I look for?:**

Dogs that drink from standing water, swim in lakes or ponds and that have the ability to roam properties with the potential of coming into contact with livestock or wild animals, are a greater risk of contracting Leptospirosis. Fever, vomiting diarrhea, muscle tenderness, being reluctant to move and lethargy are all signs of Leptospirosis in dogs. Leptospirosis can be deadly and is very serious, but the good news is, there is a vaccine and treatment available should your pet contract the disease.

**Prevention:**

The easiest way to protect your dog from Leptospirosis is by vaccination. The Leptospirosis vaccine is part of the core annual vaccines that our veterinarians recommend.

Your Pet.  
*Our*  
Passion.



---

Sweet Home Veterinary Hospital  
1214 Long Street  
Sweet Home, OR 97386  
P: (541)367-3131  
F: (541)367-2737  
E: [staff@sweethomevet.com](mailto:staff@sweethomevet.com)  
[www.sweethomevet.com](http://www.sweethomevet.com)

---

Our Veterinarians:  
Heather Peters, DVM  
Scott Oeffner, MS, DVM  
Jessica Brubaker, DVM  
Michael Reynolds, DVM  
Jeffrey Brubaker, DVM

---

*Inside this Issue:*  
Leptospirosis  
Time for a change  
Pet Fire Safety  
Proheart 6  
Barb's Retirement

## Veterinary Stories with Amie

### Time for A Change

I carefully surveyed the creature that had been plunked onto my exam table. I looked for any telltale sign to distinguish what exactly I was seeing. Slowly my brain told me that I must be looking at a small dog, but not because I saw ears or a tail or a mouth. My clue was the one soft and gentle brown eye I glimpsed assessing me as I took in all that was him.

As I began my examination, I started to make head and tail of this little dog. This small Lhaso Apso turned out to be one big hair mat. Not one inch along his body had straight, even hair. In fact, even the bottom of his feet were matted so badly that I couldn't find his foot pads. He was walking on tangled hair. This disheveled dog was owned by an equally grizzled old man.

Pooper, as the man called the dog, had a mass growing from his hind end ironically. In order to fully appraise the issue, I had to trim his tail hair away from his back legs. The mass had grown to golf ball size before it was noticed, but now the old man was hoping to get it removed if possible. As I talked through my plan for Pooper I received only a few grunts and head nods, but in the end I was given the go-ahead.

We started working on Pooper immediately. As my nurse began shaving the back end, I opened Pooper's mouth to pull the few remaining rotting teeth in the pitiful dog's mouth. I lifted his upper lip to find a lone maggot wiggling between his incisors. My body shuddered as I flicked the mini pest down the drain.

"Lil' buddy, we are going to make you feel 100% better!" I exclaimed.

I carefully moved through Pooper's mouth removing the infected teeth. Next I focused on the mass and soon had him free of it. After my part was done, my nurse spent time shaving Pooper and separating him from his coat of mats. His feet were shaved and nails trimmed. As Pooper's hair mats peeled away and legs, ears, eyes, and tail made their appearance, an attractive dog was unveiled. A thorough bath soon made this dirty little dog gleam.

Instantly Pooper's physical transformation was mimicked by his attitude. His now free ears sat taller on his head while a smile graced his face and his tongue lolled happily out of the side of his mouth. His tail expressed his gratitude as it was held high and remained in constant movement, wagging his praise. Pooper's fully revealed set of eyes sparked with goodwill and exuberance. No sign remained of the downcast and depressed dog I had initially met. Pooper had been revolutionized.

When it was time to return Pooper to his owner, I nearly skipped up the hallway to my waiting room. I was so excited to see the reaction of the owner to his "new" dog. I reached the waiting room and looked around, mildly confused by the lack of his owner's presence. A man slowly rose from his seated spot in the corner of the room and my eyes widened in surprise. The once dirty, grizzled man walked toward me with a large smile on his clean-shaven and newly groomed face! His hair was cut and combed and he was sporting freshly laundered clothes. He shook my hand and knelt down to tenderly pat Pooper on his fuzzy head. His grin widened as he bent lower and whispered in his dog's ear.

"It was about time to move on for us, eh boy?"

Pooper's quick tongue caught the man's chin as he rose to stand. The man gave me a nod as a thank you and took the offered leash. With a turn, the "new" man and his cheerful dog walked out of my clinic silently. I stood in the waiting room for a few minutes longer still shocked by the turn around of both owner and dog and contemplated what the man might have meant by his whispered words. Whatever it might have been, I had the sense that both of them were on a new path together.

## Pet Fire Safety

July 15th is Pet Fire Safety Day. It is important to have a plan in place for you and your family in the event of a fire. This plan should include pets in your household. The hope is that you will never have to utilize your fire plans, but being prepared can save lives and property. It is important to remember that as pet owners, it is our responsibility to advocate for our pets safety. An easy way to start your fire plan is to make a sign off sheet to check the function of the smoke detectors monthly. One way you can include your pets in your fire plan would be to post a list of the pets in the household with their names, breeds, and any precautions that need to be taken with them, on a front or back entrance of your home. This will help first responders know to look for your pets when they enter the house. Creating an emergency kit for your pets is another way to be prepared for a fire. Your pets emergency kit should include a copy of their medical records and ID. Other suggestions that can be included are, a supply of any medications your pets are on, a week's supply of food and bottled water, and a spare leash and collar. Local fire departments are great resources for more information about how you can be prepared for a fire.



## Proheart 6

We are now offering Proheart 6! Proheart 6 is an injectable heartworm prevention that lasts 6 months. The injection is performed by your veterinarian and you will get a complimentary phone call when your pets next injection is due. Now you won't have to worry about trying to remember when their next heartworm prevention dose is due and missing doses.

Heartworms are very serious and are spread by infected mosquitoes. Animals that contract heartworms will become sick and treatment will be necessary to keep them alive. Preventing heartworms is easy and effective. Please contact your veterinarian to get your pet started on Proheart or another heartworm prevention.

WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

"When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mom would say to me, 'look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'"

- Mr. Rogers

## We Want to Wish Our Veterinary Assistant, Barb, a Happy Retirement

There is definitely no one as thorough, dedicated or dependable as Barb. She found absolute joy in getting to meet all the patients each day and work with them routinely. She always seemed to be right behind you when you needed something, most times even before you even knew you needed it. No job was ever too big or too small for her and she took so much pride in our hospital. Her desire to help was constant, making sure she was always available and often putting her own tasks on the back burner to jump in to help the techs. When given a new task, Barb went above and beyond to not only complete it, but do it beyond expectation. She was loved by everyone, beyond appreciated by all and her absence will be felt daily! She is being kept busy by her Mini Aussie Joey and her newest addition, Sulley, another Mini Aussie that was her retirement present to herself. She's excited to get to spend more time with her kids and grandkids.



### Sweet Home Veterinary Hospital

1214 Long Street  
Sweet Home, OR 97386

[Recipient]

Address Line One

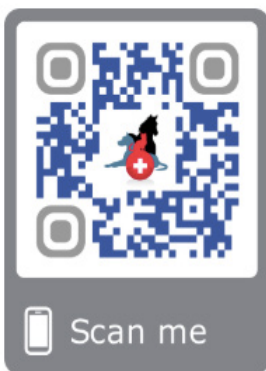
Address Line Two

Address Line Three

Address Line Four

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00AM-5:30PM	8:00AM-5:30PM	8:00AM-5:30PM	8:00AM-5:30PM	8:00AM-5:30PM
<p>The highest compliments our clients can give is the referral of their friends and family. <i>Thank you for your trust.</i></p>	<p><b>REFER A FRIEND, GET A \$30 GIFT CARD</b></p>	<p>Ask us about Petdesk and manage your pet's health online!</p> <p>We look forward to seeing you and your pet soon!</p>	 <p>Vaccine Clinic 35% Off With Examination Thursdays Only</p>	<p>Calendar Savings not Valid with Other Offers</p>
<p>We welcome your suggestions on how to better serve you and your pet.</p>		<p><b>\$10 Off</b> Veterinary Services of \$35 or more involving a doctor. Coupon must be brought in and presented to be valid.</p> <p><small>Expires: 07/31/2020</small></p>		

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter and stay connected with your family here at Sweet Home Veterinary Hospital by scanning the QR Code.



1214 Long Street Sweet Home, OR 97386

P: (541)367-3131

F: (541)367-2737

[www.sweethomevet.com](http://www.sweethomevet.com)

[staff@sweethomevet.com](mailto:staff@sweethomevet.com)

OPEN 5 DAYS A WEEK

Monday-Friday: 8:00am - 5:30pm