



# The Animal Hospital of Lynnfield

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

781-334-4161

## Fall 2009 Newsletter



### Topics Covered

- What's New?...National Adopt-A-Shelter Dog Month
- Pet Costume Contest at The Animal Hospital of Lynnfield
- The Biggest Loser for Pets of Lynnfield – Weight Loss Program
- Senior Wellness at The Animal Hospital of Lynnfield
- Seasonal Health Hazards
- 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Pet Memorial Service – update
- Stem Cell Therapy Can Eliminate Pain

### What's New?...October is National Adopt A Shelter Dog Month!

Each year 9.6 million animals are euthanized at shelters in the United States. These animals are not necessarily sick or aggressive; they just can't find someone to love them. If you have a place in your family, or are looking for a new pet, search the shelter and rescue organizations first.



### Pet Costume Contest: Dress up your furry friend and win a prize!

Our staff is pleased to announce that this year's pet costume contest will be held on October 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Bring your pet (in costume) during business hours on one of these two days to have their picture taken in our reception area. We will judge pictures in 3 categories: scary, cute, and funny. All contestants will get a ticket to be entered in a raffle for a pet gift bag. Winners of the contests and raffle will be decided Thursday October 29<sup>th</sup> and notified so they can pick up their prize.



### The Biggest Loser for Pets of Lynnfield Weight Loss Program

The staff at the Animal Hospital of Lynnfield is taking a stand against pet obesity! If your dog or cat is overweight, now is the time to sign them up for our weight loss program. This program consists of monthly weigh-ins and nutritional counseling with a trained technician for a total of 6 months. Our goal is to help your beloved pet look fit and trim for the season as well as to maintain a healthy weight over its lifetime. Obesity in our pets can lead to a variety of unwanted

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problems including arthritis, diabetes and respiratory problems. Sign up today for our weight loss program and enter our very own, 'Biggest Loser for Pets of Lynnfield', contest. Your pet has the opportunity of winning a variety of prizes if they are the 'Biggest Loser'. Winners will be decided in May 2010 so there is still time to sign up!

Once your pet is signed up for our weight loss program, you will receive a packet of nutritional information, exercise tips, \$35 rebate coupons for food, calorie information for common treats and more! Contact the hospital for any more information or schedule an appointment today. Your pet deserves your help and you both win!

So far we have several dogs and cats on the weight loss program and each one has been doing remarkably well and obtaining their monthly weight loss goal. Great job to those dedicated owners for doing such a wonderful job keeping your pets healthy!



## **Senior Wellness Programs:**

Do you know that pets age seven times faster, on average, than people? That means major health changes can occur in a short amount of time. That also means that around 8 years of age most of our pets are entering their senior years. Taking your pet to the veterinarian once a year is equivalent to a human seeing a doctor or a dentist only once every seven years! By visiting your veterinary hospital twice a year you'll help detect, treat and ideally prevent health problems before they pose a risk to your pet.

Here at the Animal Hospital of Lynnfield we practice preventative medicine to ensure as our pets' age, we continue to address their issues and detect things early before becoming a major problem. We highly encourage routine screenings for such things as metabolic disease, heart disease, arthritis and much more. That is why we are offering value priced Senior Wellness Visits. Our Senior Wellness visit includes a minimum of a comprehensive exam, blood work, and urinalysis and blood pressure screen all priced to make this a tremendous value. Additional cardiac function testing, ophthalmology testing and imaging studies may also be encouraged for specific pets. Please call today to set up your appointment.

\*\*\*Please see our coupon at the end of the Newsletter.

## **www.AnimalHospital.com is Back on Line!**

We have been adding new information to our website so check out some of our new links. As always we still have Pet Portals to keep up to date on your pet needs and to request prescriptions.



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## Seasonal Health Hazards

As Fall and Winter descend upon us, we would like to remind you of the dangers that lurk for our furry friends.

### **FALL:**

Candy/chocolate- Halloween is just around the corner and that means lots of chocolate and candy around the house. We all know how our pets enjoy chocolate just as much as we do. Unfortunately dogs and cats cannot metabolize chocolate the way that we can and therefore can develop liver damage and other medical problems if they eat too much. Please call if your dog or cat gets into your Halloween treats.

Acorns-The squirrels are in love with all the falling acorns but this has lead to lots of problems with our dogs and cats. Eating too many acorns can lead to vomiting and diarrhea and can also develop into an intestinal problem. Overindulgence in acorns can also lead to liver toxicity. Please keep an eye on your pet if they are eating too many and call if there is ever a concern.

Rat Poison- It's getting colder outside and that means some of the outdoor furry creatures want to warm up inside. Many people have been putting down rat poison to help prevent mice and rats from living indoors. Our pets love the taste of these blocks and we have seen numerous dogs and other pets eat this poison. We do NOT recommend rat poison since we have seen too many pets fall ill from getting into this poison. Please call if you ever suspect your pet has gotten into rat poison.

### **WINTER:**

Ice- As we all know ice is slippery and pets can fall and hurt themselves just like we can. They can also pull us and cause human injury. Ice can also be sharp and cut our pets' footpads. Some pets can be trained to wear protective booties and we'd be happy to help show you how.

Antifreeze- When temperatures drop we want to make sure our cars run smoothly. Antifreeze (ethylene glycol) is poisonous to dogs and cats. Many pets find the taste sweet and love to lap it off of the garage floor. Even a small amount will cause the kidneys to stop working. Please prevent your pets from ingesting it.

Salt- Avoiding slippery surfaces is easier with salt and other ice-melt products. Not only are these irritating to skin but can also cause digestive upset when swallowed. Please choose pet friendly products.

## Annual Pet Memorial Service

As most of you know, on September 26, 2009 we held our 1<sup>st</sup> annual pet memorial service at the Old Meeting House in Lynnfield Center. We are glad that so many of you came to share your memories and photos with us. We know that it was a very special day for our staff and hope that it was just as special for you; our dear clients. If you have taken a baby spruce home with you, let it be a reminder of the relationship that you shared with your pet and nourish it with care. Someday it will provide you with an umbrella of shade and love or even be a special tree for Holiday events.



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## **Stem Cell Therapy**

Several of our doctors have been recently trained and certified in stem cell therapy. This is a process of obtaining your own pet's healing cells that can be placed in other areas of the body that are unhealthy. Current uses focus on treatment for chronic arthritis. This is a new and exciting form of treatment that very few veterinarians in the area are trained in. Please ask us for more information or visit the official website at [www.vet-stem.com](http://www.vet-stem.com).

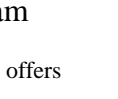
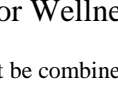
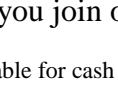
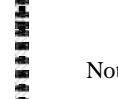
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Not redeemable for cash and cannot be combined with other offers

**We are proud and grateful to be your pet care solution specialists!**



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