



AWC News
A Newsletter of the
Animal Welfare Council/
Allegheny Spay & Neuter Clinic

October 2020

**Animal Welfare Council/Allegheny Spay & Neuter Clinic - 1380 Shawville Hwy,
Woodland, PA 16881**

814-857-5280 - www.animal411.net - visit us on Facebook

Centre Hall Satellite - 2836 Earlstown Road Suite 4, Centre Hall, PA 16829

814-364-1630



As we move into autumn, it is incredible to think of all that has unfolded since early spring. With COVID-19 upending our lives, the clinic had to quickly adapt to a new way of operating. A period of very limited operations has pushed our scheduling months into the future. We truly appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to serve the animals. Unfortunately, a number of events had to be cancelled, but we are hopeful the fall may bring opportunities to safely hold some activities. We wish you all good health and a beautiful, crisp autumn!

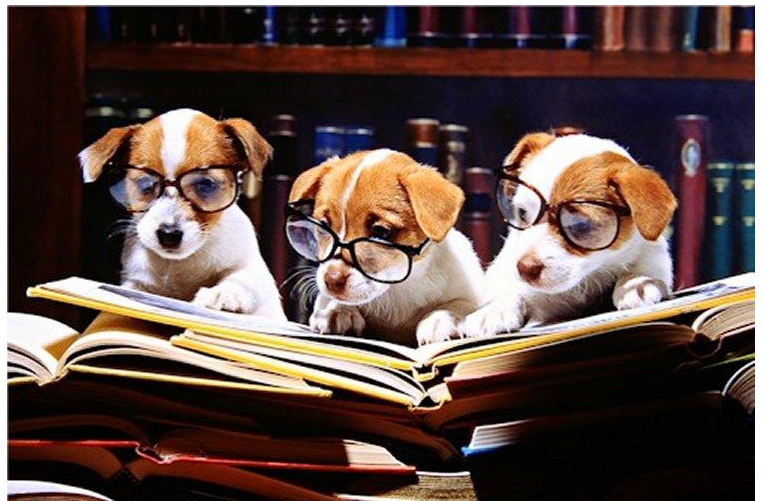
AWC Board of Directors and Allegheny Spay and Neuter Clinic Staff



In an effort to be more environmentally friendly, as well as to save costs, we will no longer be mailing our newsletter using the post office. Please feel free to forward this e-mail to your friends and family to spread our message!

Educational Opportunities

One of the main goals of the AWC is to be a resource for providing information and education to the community about pet care. Whether it's working with a group of 4H teens to discuss the need for spay/neuter, speaking to a group of adults in the community about Lyme disease, or working with area youth to help lessen the frequency of dog bites, there are individuals available to speak to your group about animals and their care. To arrange for a speaker to come to your group, call the Allegheny Spay and Neuter Clinic at 857-5280.



Our bus continues to transport a huge number of animals to the clinic, nearly every week! We are incredibly grateful to partner with so many shelters and rescue groups. Thank you to our faithful driver, Harold Walstrom, and thank you to all involved for all your early mornings and heavy lifting! 😊





Lyme disease: A pet owner's guide



Rolo has Lyme disease, but thanks to early diagnosis and regular veterinary care, she lives a happy, healthy life with her family.

Lyme disease (*Lyme borreliosis*) is an illness that affects both animals and humans – what is known as a zoonotic disease – and is the most commonly reported vector-borne illness in the United States, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Transmitted through tick bites, the disease can be difficult to detect and can cause serious and recurring health problems. Therefore, it is best to prevent infection by taking appropriate measures to prevent tick bites and, for dogs, possibly vaccinating against the disease.

The bacterium that causes Lyme disease – a worm-like, spiral-shaped bacterium called *Borrelia burgdorferi* – is carried and transmitted primarily by the tiny black-legged tick known as the deer tick. Deer ticks are found in forests or grassy, wooded, marshy areas near rivers, lakes or oceans. People or animals may be bitten by deer ticks during outdoor activities such as hiking or camping, or even while spending time in their back yards.

Named after numerous cases were identified in Lyme, Conn., in 1975, the disease has since been reported in humans and animals across the United States and around the world. Within the U.S., it appears primarily in specific areas including the southern New England states; eastern Mid-Atlantic states; the upper Midwest, particularly Wisconsin and Minnesota; and on the West Coast, particularly northern California. The CDC maintains [a map](#) detailing confirmed cases of Lyme disease throughout the years.

Lyme disease is a reportable disease – which means that health care providers and laboratories that diagnose cases of laboratory-confirmed Lyme disease are required to report those cases to their local or state health departments, which in turn report the cases to the CDC.

How to prevent Lyme disease

The best way to protect pets from Lyme disease is to take preventive measures to reduce the chance of contracting the disease. Even during the last weeks of summer, it's important to remember that pets and people are at greater risk of being infected with Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases such as anaplasmosis, ehrlichiosis, or Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.

People with pets should:

- Use reliable tick-preventive products. Speak with your veterinarian about what tick preventive product is right for your pet.

- Work with your veterinarian to decide whether to vaccinate your dog against Lyme disease. Your veterinarian's advice may depend on where you live, your pet's lifestyle and overall health, and other factors.
- When possible, avoid areas where ticks might be found. These include tall grasses, marshes and wooded areas.
- Check for ticks on both yourself and your animals once indoors.
- Clear shrubbery next to homes.
- Keep lawns well maintained.

As noted above, there are preventive Lyme disease vaccines available for dogs, but they aren't necessarily recommended for every dog. Consult your veterinarian to see if the vaccination makes sense for your pets. If your veterinarian does recommend that your dog be vaccinated against Lyme disease, the typical protocol will involve an initial vaccination followed by a booster 2-4 weeks later and annual boosters after that.

Lyme disease in pets – symptoms and treatment

Pets infected with Lyme disease may not show any signs for 2-5 months. After that time, typical symptoms include:

- Fever
- Loss of appetite
- Lameness
- Joint swelling
- Decreased activity

Recurrent lameness also is possible, and the involved extremity may be tender. Inflammation of the joint can last from days to weeks, and may migrate from one extremity to another.

Horses with Lyme disease can develop lameness, joint pain, neurologic disease, eye problems and dermatitis.

Symptomatically, Lyme disease can be difficult to distinguish from anaplasmosis because the signs of the diseases are very similar, and they occur in essentially the same areas of the country. Lyme disease is diagnosed through a blood test that shows whether an animal has been exposed to the bacterium.

Antibiotics usually provide effective treatment for Lyme disease. However, it's important to follow your veterinarian's advice regarding follow-up care after your pet has been diagnosed with and treated for the disease.

Lyme disease is not communicable from one animal to another, except through tick bites. However, if you have more than one pet and one is diagnosed with Lyme disease, your veterinarian might recommend testing for any other pets who may have been exposed to ticks at the same time. In fact, because people and their pets often can be found together outdoors as well as indoors, a Lyme disease diagnosis in any family member – whether human or non-human – should serve as a flag that all family members might consult their physicians and veterinarians, who can advise about further evaluation or testing.

It's a "One Health" problem

Because people and their pets often spend time in the same environments where Lyme and other disease-transmitting ticks are found, the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) are working together to offer advice to households with both

children and pets. People who have been diagnosed with Lyme disease should consult their veterinarian to determine their pet's risk based on the animal's lifestyle and possible environmental exposures. Likewise, people whose animals have been diagnosed with Lyme disease may want to consult their physician about their own or their children's risk if they have concerns that the animals and family members might have been exposed to similar environmental risks.

Thousands of cases of Lyme disease have been reported in humans and animals across the United States and around the world. By knowing about Lyme disease and how to prevent it, you can help keep all members of your family — human and animal — safe.

Lyme disease in people

In humans, often the earliest indication of infection is a "bullseye" rash at the site of the tick bite – so named because it resembles a target. As the infection develops, symptoms include fever, headache, fatigue, and muscle and joint pain. The disease can progress to cause chronic joint problems as well as heart and neurological problems. As with pets, Lyme disease is not contagious from one person to another.

There are many things people can do to avoid exposure to tick bites. These include:

- Avoid areas where ticks are found
- Cover arms, legs, head and feet when outdoors
- Wear light-colored clothing
- Use insecticides
- Checking for ticks once indoors.

Article accessed 9/30/2020: <https://www.avma.org/resources/pet-owners/petcare/lyme-disease-pet-owners-guide>

Adoptable Pets

The following animals are staying at the **Clearfield County SPCA** and looking for a great home! Please call them at **765-2220** if this might be you.

Meet Belle

Pet ID: 43794271



Breed: domestic shorthair
Gender: spayed female

Age: 1 ½ years
Size: small

Color: black/brown

Oh, um hey, um hi. Um my name is Belle. I am a sweet little girl who can be a little shy at first, but once I get to know you, I will love you forever. I love treats and catnip. I can be a little spunky, when I feel like it. So, if you have a nice quiet home that needs a sweet little girl in it, then stop on by!

Meet Tulip

Pet ID: 44279811



Breed: domestic shorthair
Gender: spayed female

Age: unknown
Size: small

Color: black/white

Hey All!!!! I'm Tulip. A sweet and innocent little girl looking for her forever home. I would lounge around all day long if you let me, but there are also times when I want nothing more than to play. I'll chase the toy, roll in the cat nip, and all around to put a big smile on your face. So, if you are looking, I'm ready. Don't look at another kitty because you aren't going to find another as sweet as me!

Meet Sassy

Pet ID: 44085293



Breed: domestic short hair
Gender: spayed female

Age: 13 years
Size: large

Color: torti

Well hello! I am Sassy. Aren't I big and beautiful? Let me tell you about myself. I love to have my head rubbed. I sometimes enjoy playing with toys. Most of all though, I love taking cat naps on my bed! I am looking for my retirement home. So, come on by and spend some time with me, you won't be disappointed.

Meet Pebbles

Pet ID: 45424806

Breed: Dutch
Gender: female

Age: 2 years
Size: small

Color: white/grey



Look at me! Look at me! Ain't I so sweet! I have these beautiful grey markings, and I'm just as beautiful as can be! If you are looking for a cuddly bunny, look no more! I used to cuddle with my previous owner while they watched TV! I'm soft, furry and friendly: what more could you ask for? Don't delay, put that application in today!

DON'T FORGET:

Please be advised that a veterinarian **must** approve all prescription refills and must be **on-site** for vaccines to be administered. Please call the clinic if you are unsure of our availability to meet your needs.

Also, be aware that communication via Facebook is not for scheduling or emergencies.



AWC/Allegheny Spay & Neuter Clinic Wish List.....

dog food, cat food, stamps, envelopes (business size), garbage bags (tall), paper towels, laundry detergent, packing tape, duct tape, distilled water. Monetary donations are also appreciated in any amount.

Memorial or Honorary donations can be made and will be recognized with a notification card. Gift certificates are available for spaying and neutering. Items can be dropped off at the clinic during business hours:

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM – Monday-Friday

Thank you for helping us help area animals. All donations are tax deductible.



If you see animals being neglected or abused, call the Clearfield County SPCA @ 814-765-2220.

If you haven't already, check out our Facebook page (Allegheny Spay and Neuter Clinic/Animal Welfare Council) for information about current events and animal care.