

# The Creekside News

Creekside Animal Hospital

2840 Schuyler Avenue

Lafayette, IN 47905

(765)742-0140

[creeksideah@gmail.com](mailto:creeksideah@gmail.com)

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

SECOND EDITION

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Welcome to the second edition of the Creekside News. This newsletter is brought to you by veterinarians and staff at Creekside Animal Hospital and is meant to give you the latest and greatest news and information about the clinic and treatment options for your pets.

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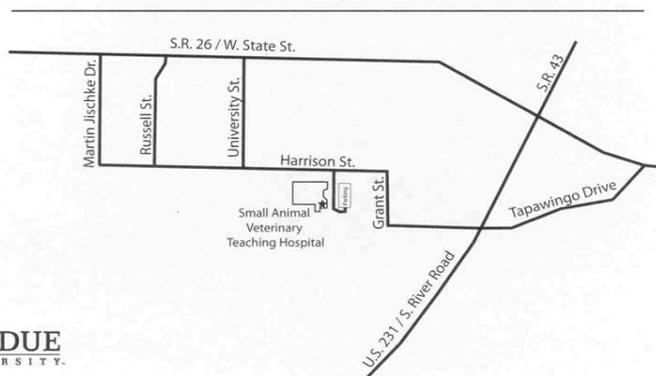
Section 2 - Creekside Trivia - Let's have some fun, learn about our pets, and win some great prizes.

Section 3 - The Hidden Dangers of Fall – how to keep your pets safe during this festive season.

## UPDATES: WHAT IS GOING ON AROUND LAFAYETTE THAT I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT FOR THE SAFETY OF MY PET?

### Purdue University Animal Emergency Service

Located at 625 Harrison Street, West Lafayette, IN  
in the Small Animal Veterinary Teaching Hospital  
on the campus of Purdue University.



**PURDUE**  
UNIVERSITY

Purdue has officially taken over the Emergency Clinic Services for the Lafayette and surrounding area.

They are open 7 days a week 24 hours a day and fully staffed to take excellent care of our fur babies. You can still use the old "Animal Emergency Clinic" phone number (765)449-2001 to reach Purdue as it will be forwarded for some time, or you can use their direct line at (765)496-7911.

We hope this map to the Purdue Emergency Clinic and the additional phone number will be of benefit to our clients.

Pet Food recalls. We get a lot of phone calls from owners wondering if we have heard about a particular recall of a food and/or treat they are currently feeding their pet. There is no way for us to keep a current list of every recalled product but we can show you how you can check if you have any questions. The FDA keeps a list that is 100% complete and current. You can check it day or night on line at: [www.FDA.gov](http://www.FDA.gov) on the home screen you will see on the left a link that says "Animal and Veterinary" click on that link. Now, on the right hand side of your screen you will see a link that says "Recalls and Alerts" look just below that to "pet food" and click there. If you do not have a computer or would simply like to call them you can reach the FDA at 1-888-INFO-FDA (1-888-463-6332). We hope this can help everyone have peace of mind. Creekside Animal Hospital does constantly stay on top of any recalls that would have affected any product we would have carried in the clinic or sold to our clients and we will immediately notify our clients of any potential harm from anything you may have purchased from us. So please rest easy knowing your purchases made here are watched and kept track of.

## CREEKSIDE TRIVIA ☺ LETS HAVE SOME FUN, LEARN ABOUT OUR PETS AND WIN SOME GREAT PRIZES!

We wanted to have some fun with this newsletter, so decided to test out a trivia section in the newsletter. Each issue we will include questions here and you will be able to find the answer to each question somewhere on our website. How this works: Once you get all of the answers you can enter by posting your answers on our facebook page, posting the answers in a message on our guestbook located on our website, write the answers on a piece of paper (be sure to include your name) and drop them off at the clinic, or drop us a postcard in the mail! On September 15, 2010 we will put all of the names in a box and draw out 20 lucky winners to receive a free tube of Advantage or Advantix. Let's have fun and see how much we can learn about our fur babies!

1. An adult dog has \_\_\_\_\_ teeth on average.
2. Domestic cats purr at the same frequency as an idling diesel engine about \_\_\_\_\_ cycles per second.
3. Cats have \_\_\_\_\_ muscles in EACH ear.
4. The fastest cat is the \_\_\_\_\_, it is also the fastest land animal and can reach speeds over 60mph in short distances!
5. Three dogs survived the sinking of the Titanic – A Newfoundland, a Pomeranian and a \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Cats step with both left legs, then both right legs when they walk or run. The only other animals to do this are the maned wolf, giraffe and \_\_\_\_\_.
7. A dog's normal body temperature is \_\_\_\_\_. This explains why our dogs feel so toasty warm.
8. True or False – Tylenol is a safe pain reliever for my pets.
9. Dogs' only sweat glands are located in their \_\_\_\_\_.
10. The name of Creekside's clinic cat and mascot is: \_\_\_\_\_.

## THE HIDDEN DANGERS OF "FALL" – HOW TO KEEP YOUR PETS SAFE DURING THIS FESTIVE SEASON

Halloween can be a scary and dangerous time for pets. Halloween masks and costumes can be disorienting and frightening to pets (resulting in dog bites). Chocolate candy left around the house or dropped on the sidewalk (for those who bring their dogs along for trick or treat) can lead to chocolate toxicity in a dog. Pet owners who plan to welcome trick-or-treaters should ensure that they have a proper crate or secure spare bedroom for the pet to relax for the evening, because the constant opening and closing of the front door provides a perfect opportunity for escape. Open flames used in Halloween candles or Jack-o-Lanterns make an interesting glow that can get noses burned! A less dangerous alternative for candles involves using a special battery-powered Jack-o-Lantern light or an electric candle. These are just a couple of the dangers that dogs, cats and other pets face on Halloween, so pet owners must take proactive measures to ensure this October 31 is a safe one for furry and feathered family members.

If you find that you pets just need some extra help to remain calm during these times of extra stress and activity, we have several natural and medical means of helping your pets to stay calmer this Halloween.

**Anxitane** (Developed by Virbac Animal Health) is a new option for treating anxiety in pets. It is a natural anti-anxiety amino acid. It has no known side effects, does not cause drowsiness, has no known interactions with other therapeutics or medications and is great for cats or dogs. It comes in a very palatable chewable treat form and is easy to administer. Anxitane may be used as needed for situations that you find your pet feeling anxious or afraid such as: car travel, visits to the veterinarian or groomer, thunderstorms, fireworks or other loud noises, parties, and Holiday's (such as Halloween, where you have many things that cause fear, as well as those Holidays that are not as full of strangers but find your animals a bit stressed as the house fills with joyful sounds of family and friends celebrating together during the Holiday Season). Anxitane can also be used daily, year round for those pets that are always a bit anxious about life. If you would like any further information on Anxitane give us a call at Creekside and we will be happy to help answer your questions.

With the Holiday Season comes lots of extra baking and general cooking. We all love to share a bite here and there with our furry friends but let's talk a bit about when a treat can turn dangerous. Not everything that we can eat is safe for our four legged family members. Here is a short list of the most common \*kitchen\* foods/items that cause illness in pets:

Coffee grounds	Grapes/raisins
Chocolate	Onions
Yeast dough	Tea
Macadamia nuts	Alcohol
Fatty foods	Salt

The newest to add to the list and discuss is **Xylitol**. This product is a sweetener used in many gums, candies, breath mints and we are finding it to be quite toxic to pets even in what might be considered a very small amount for a human. The average piece of chewing gum has 1,000mg of Xylitol in it. Only a few small pieces of chewing gum can prove very harmful for a small dog. This product is popping up in products everywhere from toothpaste, to baking powders and chocolates. Please be extra cautious reading labels.

After xylitol ingestion, vomiting is usually the initial sign. Hypoglycemia may develop within 30-60 minutes. However in some cases of gum ingestions, hypoglycemia may be delayed for up to 12 hours. The clinical signs may progress rapidly from lethargy to ataxia, collapse and seizures. Recently, the ASPCA APCC has had reports of some dogs developing elevated liver enzyme activity within 12-24 hours after xylitol ingestion. Not all of the pets appeared to develop hypoglycemia before the onset of liver failure; instead their only signs were lethargy and vomiting. There are treatment options to stabilize your pet's blood sugar and help prevent permanent liver damage. Treatment may include hospitalizations and intravenous fluids with dextrose supplementation. Some pets will remain symptomatic for several hours. Blood work will also be done to check liver function and determine if any further treatment is necessary

If you believe your dog has ingested Xylitol Please IMMEDIATELY contact our office (765)742-0140, the Purdue Emergency Center or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center (1-888-426-4435; a consultation fee may apply).

### **ANTIFREEZE, HERBICIDES AND INSECTICIDES**

Ethylene glycol-containing antifreeze and coolants, even in small quantities, can be fatal to both dogs and cats. While antifreeze products containing propylene glycol are less toxic than those containing ethylene glycol, they can still be dangerous. In addition to antifreeze, other substances routinely stored in the garage including insecticides, plant/lawn fertilizers, weed killers, ice-melting products and gasoline also pose a threat to your pet's health if ingested.

It is that time of year as we prepare for colder weather and get things in order for the winter. We can't forget about our pets during this time because these things we do to keep our belongings \*safe\* through the cold weather can have deadly effects on our pets. Please be EXTRA cautious as you use antifreeze when the weather starts to cool. Even the smallest amount can cause extreme damage. Antifreeze is very attractive to pets as it is very sweet so you have to take extreme measures to be sure that your pets are not around when you are using antifreeze and that if the smallest amount of it is spilled – less than a teaspoon – it is cleaned up and disposed of where your pets can not get to it. Make sure you haven't stepped in a puddle then take those shoes off in the house (where your pet can lick the soles of your shoe ingesting enough of the deadly substance to cause harm). The most important thing to remember about antifreeze is that ANY AMOUNT is too much. If you feel that your pet has ingested antifreeze it needs immediate attention.

### **RODENTICIDES**

If a pet ingests rat or mouse poison, potentially serious or even life-threatening illness can result. There really is NO safe place you can set these items where your pet won't/can't find them. They are made to attract rodents with their smell and sweet flavor. In turn they do the same with our animal companions. Please consider using an alternative means to remove rodents from your house, barns, or yard areas. If you find that your pet has ingested rat or mouse poisoning call our clinic or the Purdue Emergency Clinic IMMEDIATELY. Keep the box of any poison you set out so that you can relay what the ingredients are should you ever have to make that phone call.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND “THE FINE PRINT”**

We hope you have found the newsletter to be helpful and informative. If you have any questions or concerns please call our office at: (765)742-0140. Our hours of operation are Monday – Friday 7:30am – 6:00pm and Saturday 8:00am – 12:00pm.

If you do not want to receive further newsletters from Creekside please send us an email at [CreeksideAH@gmail.com](mailto:CreeksideAH@gmail.com) and let us know you want to unsubscribe from the newsletters. We will take you off the mailing list.

Please note that while we always strive to help our clients learn as much as possible to help provide them with the knowledge and tools to give their pets the best quality of life possible, the newsletter is not a replacement for medical attention. This newsletter is intended for informational purposes only.