



Nose to Tail

Companion Animal



Fleas and ticks

Fleas are blood-sucking parasites that live on the skin's surface. Fleas can be controlled with insecticides, but control must include treating fleas on the animal, in the house, and in your pet's outdoor environment. Female fleas lay eggs on your pet, inside the house, or outside on damp ground and the larvae hatch within two weeks but can survive for years waiting for the right conditions. They live in cracks and crevices and feed on organic material. Finding fleas or flea debris (flea faeces, which when dry look like black pepper) on an animal is proof of flea infestation.

Ticks are parasites that attach to the skin and suck blood. Damage from ticks includes blood loss from severe infestation and skin irritation from bites. Ticks can be removed by hand or through the use of insecticides. Ticks will feed on dogs, cats, rabbits, deer, people, and other hosts. Both fleas and ticks can cause skin irritation and serious illness in smaller animals so it is best to treat your pets regularly. There are a number of different flea and tick treatments available for your pets, both topical and chewable options are available. Come on in and ask us for advice on which treatment is best for your pets at any one of our four clinics.

Ear infections

Outer ear infections are a common affliction for our pets and seem to be more common in dogs than cats, especially in the warmer months. Dogs and cats have a long L shaped ear canal, often with a lot of fur growing at the opening of the canal which can create a perfect warm and moist environment for bugs to grow. In a normal healthy ear canal any dirt or debris is caught within the ear wax and gradually pushed out of the ear by the fine hairs that line the canal. Occasionally debris or water becomes trapped, either by fur, too much ear wax, or simply the shape of the animal's ear canal.

The infections are caused by a proliferation of normal skin bacteria and yeast leading to painful, itchy, ears and occasionally broken ear drums. Animals with ear infections will typically start scratching and shaking their heads incessantly, and sometimes you might see some smelly discharge coming from the ears. If left untreated they can lead to permanent damage of the ears, hearing loss, and middle or inner ear infections. If you notice any of these signs in your beloved pet bring them in to see us. We try to have a look down your pet's ear canals, take some samples to look under the microscope and send you home with some medicated ear drops. Most mild infections will clear up in a week.

Kitten Desexing Offer

Have your kitten
desexed at
**The Vet Centre during
April and May 2017 and
SAVE 20%**

**Offer also Includes
Free Pain Relief Post Op
20% off Microchipping**

