

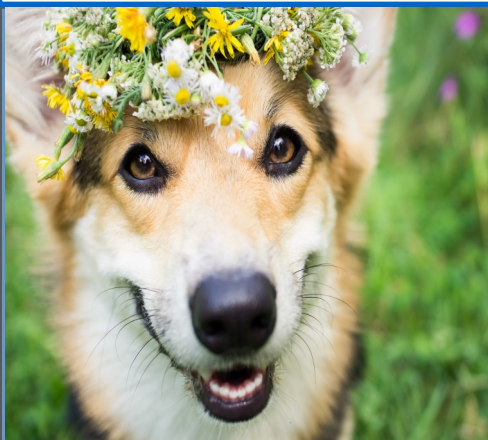
BENTLEIGH VETERINARY CLINIC

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BENTLEIGH
VETERINARY CLINIC
for healthier + happier pets



Spring Allergies

Cats and dogs can suffer from allergies caused by the increase of pollen as the flowers bloom and grasses, weeds and flowering trees respond to the warmer weather. But in spring, it's hard for your pet to avoid the seasonal allergies. For dogs you can help their itchy skin by bathing them more often and using a shampoo or soap designed for sensitive skin. The cat that suffers from itchy skin can be gently rubbed using a soft damp cloth with a few drops of special soothing anti-itch cream. Itchy skin, ears, **weeping eyes**, and rashes can be managed. Try washing their bed often to prevent allergens build up, and vacuum your home often to get rid of airborne allergens. But bring your pet in so that we can give you the most effective medication or creams to help them survive the itchy season.



Welcome to our September 2021 Newsletter

Spring is a lovely time of the year. Newborn lambs, daffodils, fresh grass and flowers everywhere. But it can be an allergy sufferers nightmare! If your cat or dog starts scratching themselves silly, licks excessively, kicks their ears, or drives you mad with their behaviour, you can almost guarantee that they are suffering from environmental elements such as pollen, grass seeds, and allergy to plants. **We can help.** Bring them into our clinic—many allergy symptoms mimic other diseases, so you want to be sure you get the right product for your pet. With the warmer weather it is an ideal time to increase the exercise for your pets and wear off a little of that winter padding! Nice long walks, or even divide your walk into two sessions will get your dog moving along. Check your pets diet but be wary of dramatic changes which can upset their digestion. If you are making changes, do it slowly. Spring is ideal to clean your cats bed and blankets (and your dogs too) so they are nice and fresh. It's a great time of the year, enjoy it with your furry

How Puppies Benefit from Puppy Pre-school!

Puppies can be a handful of mischief, and Preschool is a perfect place to burn that energy off and at the same time, learn some valuable lessons. As they learn to socialise with other pups, it sets a solid foundation to build on as they grow older. They gain confidence, and even a puppy can learn obedience although lessons will have to be repeated often as their retention of information is limited at first. They will be taught the fundamentals of good socialisation behaviour, and they will learn at their own pace. Your pup will learn to navigate social behaviour in a positive and effective manner, they will meet new friends, and they will start to see the world outside of their home. They will be less fearful going meeting other dogs and people, and they will learn how to be brave in this new wide world they have discovered. A puppy who learns to focus, listen and obey will become a treasured companion.

A Little Bit of Humour.

What do you have if you breed a cocker spaniel with a poodle and a rooster?

A cockerpoodlepool!

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EMERGENCY PET KIT!

Unpredictable weather can cause bush fires, flash floods, and storms. If you need to evacuate quickly, make sure you have a pet emergency kit so that you can grab your pet, grab your kit and get to safety without hesitation! This kit should include:

- Medical summary & medications.
- Proof of vaccinations for pets.
- Registration information.
- Microchip info, pet picture, pet description ie sex, breed, weight.
- Cans of pet food & bags of treats.
- Feeding dish & water bottles.
- Flea, tick and heartworm meds.
- Leash & harnesses, litter & box, first aid book. Cat carrier bag.
- Blanket, bed, special toys.
- Disinfectant, bandages, cloths, and plastic bags.



Be on the alert with your pet's toys for broken parts.

These small parts could become a hazard if swallowed. They can cause internal blockages which requires an emergency operation. Dogs are especially rough with their toys so do a frequent toy check to check they are safe for your pet.

IT'S FLEA & TICK PREVENTION TIME AGAIN.

These parasites are easier to prevent than to control once your pet is infected with them. They cause mild to debilitating flea allergy dermatitis or even life threatening anaemia. Fleas can be caught from the environment when adult fleas lay their eggs and some roll off onto the ground. Most fleas don't need a dog to dog (or other infected pet) contact, they can catch them from having a good roll in the garden. Fleas are also responsible for transmitting the dog tapeworm to other dogs, cats, and yes, even humans. Paralysis ticks can be deadly, or cause serious illness. To be affective you need to treat every pet in your household. Check their coats often for ticks and fleas. There are many products that can help you keep these parasites at bay. Come in and talk to us, we can advise which one would be best for your pet. Prevention is better/cheaper/more effective than trying to cure the

Cats Fitness Class.

Cats are not as easy to train as dogs, they will only do it if THEY feel like it! But if you are sneaky and use a tasty treat, you may just get them to co operate.

Try playing with them with flick poles or a string and ball. Anything that flutters. And they love boxes, so you can coach them into a maze using a treat on a flick pole. Older cats sleep a lot, and they can put on weight if they are just lying around. Perhaps you could build a series of steps up a wall to get a treat at the top. Or throw dry cat treats for them to seek and eat. Don't overdo it or they will get bored. Make it short and simple to start with. Excess weight brings a plethora of illness with it. From heart issues, chronic inflammation, and a host of other disease. It can also shorten your cats life. So start now with an exercise plan for your cat.



How to Make a Sick Pet Comfortable.

If your pet is feeling poorly, or if they have had an operation and is recovering, you can help them feel better by providing an area with a comfy bed and keep the noise level down. They may want to be close to you for comfort, so pay them the attention they crave. Have a bowl of water handy and have the litter box near for your cat, or a toilet pad for your dog if they can't walk far. Gently groom them as they may not be able to do this task themselves. Use a damp cloth to clean their coat and keep their diet light and easy to digest. Change their bedding daily, especially if they are confined to bed. Keeping the area clean will prevent any secondary infection. Encourage them to move around a little, as being stationary all day is not good for them but keep the activities low key. And follow your vets instructions re medicines, diet and bandage changes. Reassure your pet, they will be feeling poorly and won't understand why. Your attention and love will soon have them back on their paws.