

SEPTEMBER 2020



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OUR HYDRO BATH.

Our clinic has an outdoor covered [Hydro bath facility](#) for dogs. As spring makes its first appearance, it may be time to give Fido's coat a deep clean! The hydro bath is spacious, and the shower head projects a powerful jet of warm soapy water onto your dog's coat. You can give your dog an extensive massage and rinse, either using your products or those available at our clinic. A good towel off will finish the job, and once dry, your pooch will smell like a bouquet of spring flowers. If you need help, you can have one of our friendly staff assist you. What dog would not enjoy a few treats, a nice massage and plenty of attention!! Help make your pet happier & healthier today – but best you book in advance 😊



TIP: Unlike human skin (which is acidic) dog skin has a neutral pH. Ensure you use products that are pH neutral and are soap and sulphate free.

BENTLEIGH Veterinary Clinic.

As winter makes its exit, spring is ready to take over with warmer breezes and milder days. Animals love the warm frisky winds that energise them to run about chasing leaves or anything that moves. But winter can often have a sudden finale when it unexpectedly unleashes a cold wind and nasty storms as it protests about leaving. Make sure your pet has a warm escape pod to run to if they are out of doors during spring. With the beginning of the new season, it is an ideal time to ensure your pet is up to date with their flea treatment as those pesky parasites will be getting more active. Prevention is always easier than trying to eradicate them, so get in early. If your pet has not yet been desexed, perhaps now is the ideal time to get the job done now, before those super cute puppies and kittens arrive! Many young animals can get pregnant at six months, and with all the youngsters arriving in spring, it can be heartbreaking when homes cannot be found for all. Get prepared and book your pet in now!



Vaccines are a preventative health measure, design to thwart serious disease in your pet. The beauty about vaccines is that they can prevent the spread of a disease into the surrounding pet community. It can be confusing when considering what your pet needs, but we are here to help you and can advise on what is best for your pet based on their age, sex, weight, and other factors. Vaccinations can safeguard your pet from potentially harmful and often fatal diseases. Puppy and kittens have different requirements to an older dog or cat, that is why it is important to meet with us so we can review your pets medical history and determine the exact [vaccine program](#) that is right for your pet.

DENTAL MONTH HAS BEEN EXTENDED FOR SEPTEMBER!

****DENTAL SPECIAL FOR SEPTEMBER! **** Get \$100 off all dental procedures during the month of September. If you sign up to our [health care plans](#) as well, you will receive an additional \$100 off all dental procedures. (that is \$200 in total!)

Did you know that dental diseases can lead to health problems within your pet's organs? The bacteria that is caused by [poor tooth health](#), does not just stay in your pets' mouth. It travels down into the body interior, and in a short amount of time, it can affect the organs such as the heart and kidneys. And to be honest, professional health care to correct a health problem arising from a feral mouth can get expensive. Cleaning, x-rays, tooth extraction, medication, anesthesia, surgery, and antibiotics – these corrective treatments add up. So be proactive and help your pet look after their pearly whites. Their smile will not only look better, but it will smell better – no more stinky dog or cat breath!

FUN PET CAT FACTS

Did you know that a cat can jump as much as seven times its height? Another interesting fact is that cats have five toes on each front paw, but they only have four toes on each back paw. Cats are good communicators, as they have over one hundred vocal sounds, while dogs only have about ten. And finally, a pack of kittens is called a kindle, while a pack of adult cats is called a clowder. Cats are amazing animals.

Tips about Pet Health



A Little Touch of Humour

Q. What happened to the dog that ate nothing but garlic?

A. His bark was much worse than his bite!

Q. What is more amazing than a talking dog?

A. A spelling bee!



TIP: As the days grow warmer, pets require access to fresh, clean water to ensure they are hydrated. If possible, have more than one source of water in case one is knocked over!

ANT PROOF PET FOOD DISHES

As the temperature rises, a favourite destination for ants is often your pets bowl. A simple way to keep them out of your dog or cat's food is to set the bowl into a shallow pan of water. It is like creating a moat around the food bowl, preventing the ants from reaching the pet food. Not only does it keep the ants out, but your pet can take a sip of water from the pan whenever they are thirsty.



FELINE LOWER URINARY TRACT DISEASES (FLUTD)

Both female and male cats can get FLUTD, which is really a group of feline diseases that have multiple causes. Cats that are overweight, unfit or who eat dry food often suffer from this disease. Stress is also a factor. The symptoms of FLUTD include straining to urinate, bloody urine, crying when urinating, depression, dehydration, lack of appetite, licking around the urinary area and vomiting. If your cat has a problem urinating, call us immediately as this situation is always an emergency. To [diagnose](#) this condition, we will conduct a complete physical exam, a urinalysis and may require a urine culture, blood work, radiographs, or ultrasound. Urinary problems are so varied, therefore there is not just one treatment. Your cat may require antibiotics, urinary acidifiers, surgery to remove bladder stones or a tumor, and so on. Failure to treat a urinary problem can quickly lead to kidney failure. It can prove fatal if an obstruction in the urinary tract is not relieved immediately. Please call us if your cat is in pain and having problems urinating – we can offer immediate help.

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EAR INFECTIONS

Ear infections can almost drive your pet nuts. They may shake their heads or scratch their ears as their infection may be itchy or even painful. Often there is a discharge from the ears, or they may have a really bad odor. Other symptoms include a lack of balance, redness in the outer portion of the ear, and some swelling of the outer portion of the ear. Pets with long, floppy ears often have an infection at some stage of their lives. We can treat the infection with drops of antibiotics and proceed to clean the ear canal. Our team will show you how to properly clean your pet's ears so that it becomes a natural part of your dog or cat grooming session.

PET OBESITY.

Giving in to your pet and letting them eat at will, is not being kind! it is creating a mountain of health issues for that pet. Just the pressure of the extra weight will cause joint pain and arthritis. Heart disease will be the result of a pet who overeats. As a pet puts on the weight, the animal becomes reluctant to exercise, they are affected dramatically by high temperatures, they become sluggish and depressed. Too many snacks and table scraps are the cause. Too many rewards that are food based. It is hard to ignore our pets when we are eating. Those beautiful eyes that watch our every move, plus add in that cute head tilt when they are asking for their share of our food. That is another cause of obesity – giving cats and dogs human food. Their systems are not designed to consume refined foods. At Bentleigh Clinic, we [promote healthy eating in pets](#) and can advise you of how you can start to tailor your pets' diet to suit your pet. You may need a plan of meals and snacks for your pet throughout the day, indeed ... for the week. Join our fight for pet health, where a pet is an appropriate weight for its breed, where pet and owner can look forward to a better healthier future for all.

TIP: Keep control of those annoying fleas by ensuring your [flea control](#) is up to date and regularly vacuum and wash bedding and carpets in the house.