



ANIMAL HOSPITAL OF
SHAWNEE HILLS

MONTHLY MEWS

April 2025

What we've been
up to at AHSH:



Hop on over for your
pet's Easter photos!

We gave our Zen Room
a seating, exam table,
and storage upgrade!



Dr. Jake has finished his
Canine Rehabilitation
Practitioner Certification!

We are excited to begin
offering rehab services
this June - stay tuned!



April HEARTWORM is AWARENESS MONTH

Read on to
learn about:

(but Heartworm Disease is a YEAR-ROUND concern!)



A client's experience
with Heartworm Disease



How your pet's monthly
prevention works



New Heartworm
Prevention products

...and more!

Libby's Journey: *from* HEARTWORM POSITIVE *to* HAPPY & HEALTHY



When a long-time client of ours adopted their Great Dane mix, Libby, in the spring of 2022, they never expected her to bring home Heartworms! Her heartworm test from the rescue had been negative, but her first heartworm test at AHSB just a few months later was positive. Looking back through her rescue records, we found that she had **missed 3 doses of Heartworm Prevention over the colder months** - she was likely bitten and infected during this time.

From Libby's mom:

“ My heart sank when Dr. Ritzler said she was heartworm positive. I knew that could be life-threatening for a dog.

Dr Ritzler discussed the next steps:

She had to be non-active for around 3 months. We had to walk her on a leash each time she had to go to the bathroom as he advised she shouldn't get her heart rate up. She wasn't able to play with our other two dogs during this time. We had three different appointments where we had to drop her off for the day at AHSB to get the medication to mitigate the heart worms. We take her to doggie day care during the week. She had to stay in a crate away from other dogs so she would remain calm.



She wasn't the carefree dog we had adopted. We felt like we let her down. **It was a really tough time.** However, EVERYONE at AHSB was outstanding and was always so good about answering our questions. By the end of the three months it was confirmed that she was heartworm negative! We were elated.

Libby has resumed her activity and she is doing wonderful. The experience has certainly taught me that heartworm prevention is worth every penny. The amount of time and money we had to put into treating a heartworm positive dog was way more than we ever imagined.

I often hear people say they only give their dogs heartworm prevention in the spring, summer and fall. I'm here to tell you year-round heartworm medication is recommended for a reason.

I wouldn't want any other dog or family to go through what we did. ”

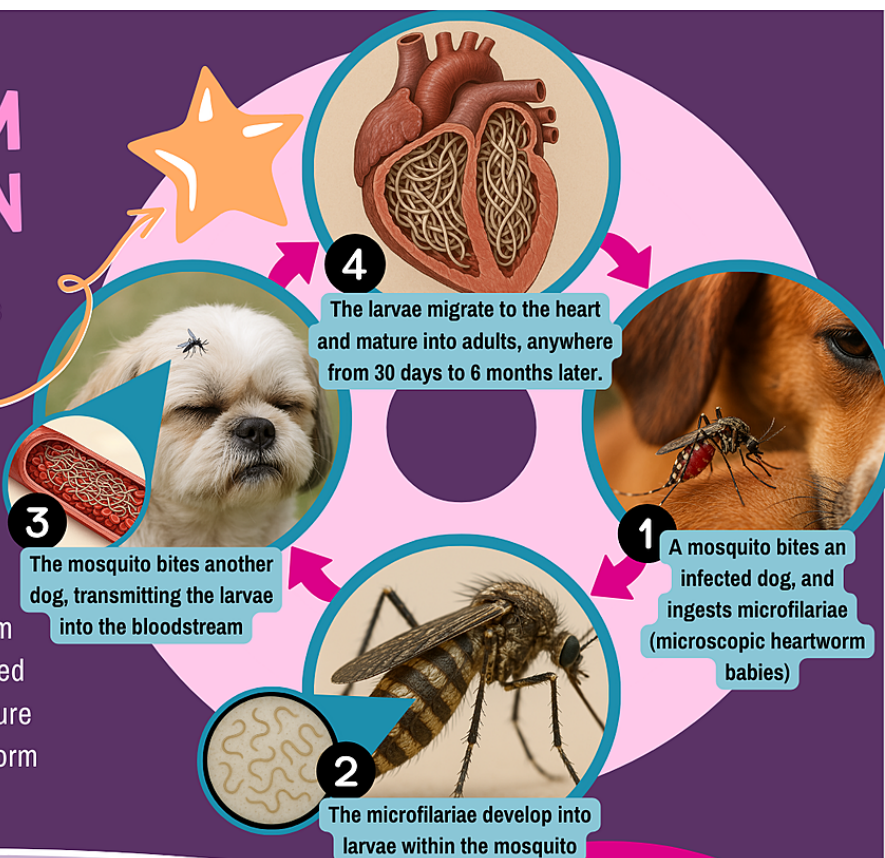
How does HEARTWORM PREVENTION work?

Monthly heartworm prevention is **ONLY** effective against larvae.

This 30-day window

is our chance to kill the larvae, preventing Heartworm Disease!

Adult worms are no longer susceptible to monthly heartworm prevention. If prevention is skipped and the larvae is permitted to mature into adult worms, intensive heartworm disease treatment is required.



Patient of the Month

This sweet kitten, now 24 weeks old, has been in several times over the past month due to a fever, lack of appetite, and weight loss.

With his x-rays and labs all coming back normal, this guy was a bit of a mystery - but supportive meds, fluids, and probiotics did the trick and he's now doing well!

From Flanagan's family:

"This little guy strums every cord of our heart strings with his love and cuteness. Flanagan loves to run around the house with his buddy Koa and play fetch with his red mouse. Not the blue, green, or purple mouse. The RED mouse only. He loves

to sit in your lap and stretch out, take a bath and sleep.

Flanagan had some major issues when we first adopted him. Fever of 104 and the poor guy wouldn't eat for several days and wouldn't even play. He went down to 2.5lbs of weight and really worried us. Taking him to the hospital helped control the fever, supplied him with fluids and ruled out many potential illnesses. With the love and care from the entire team, it brought his appetite back and helped bring his playful personality back."

FLANAGAN



DID YOU KNOW ??
Cats can get
Heartworm Disease too!

While we often think of heartworm as a "dog thing," cats can also be infected by just one bite from a mosquito. And the worst part? **There's no treatment for heartworm disease in cats - prevention is the only way to protect them.**

If your cat enjoys patio lounging or sneaking outside on adventures, be sure they are on a monthly preventative to keep heartworms away and protect against fleas and other parasites!



MEET OUR NEW IN-HOUSE HEARTWORM PREVENTION!

We're updating the all-in-one monthly Heartworm, Flea, and Tick prevention product we carry in-hospital. We're making the switch from Simparica Trio to a new superstar: **Credelio Quattro!**

WHY THE CHANGE?

- ✓ **More coverage:** Credelio Quattro covers more parasites and kills ticks faster.
- ✓ **More savings:** The manufacturer allows us to offer **instant rebates** - no more submitting receipts or waiting on a prepaid card.

You'll save right at checkout:

- \$ \$30 off when you purchase 6 doses
- \$ \$65 off when you purchase 12 doses



Prefer to stick with Simparica Trio?

No problem! It's still an excellent product, and is easy to order through our online store.

APRIL PET PERKS BONUS

Purchase a year's worth of Heartworm Prevention and earn **1200 bonus Pet Perks Points!**

*points will be rewarded for purchases made directly from AHSH or through our online store.

Are you earning Pet Perks??

With the PetDesk App, you can earn 2 points for every \$1 spent at AHSH. **Every 400 points is worth \$5 off your next visit** - no limits to how many points you can redeem at once!

- 1 Scan here to get the PetDesk App:
- 2 find us on the Providers tab, and
- 3 click on Pet Perks to opt-in.



That's it! We'll do the rest!

Staff Spotlight:



ERIN
Veterinary
Technician

Most interesting place I've lived:
Hong Kong

Favorite part of my job:
All the dog kisses

Most adventurous thing I have done:
Hiked Angel's Landing

If I could only eat one meal for the rest of my life:
Cereal

Favorite holiday:
Easter

ERIN'S PETS:



JUST FOR FUN...

Did we forget to mention there's a quiz at the end??

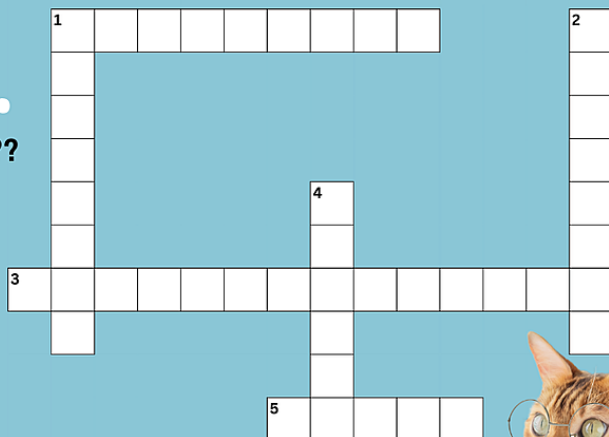
We'll send 400 bonus PetPerks points to anyone who returns their completed crossword!

Across

1. Heartworm-positive dogs must avoid an elevated _____
3. Cost savings with Credelio Quattro
5. New service from Dr. Jake!

Down

1. City where Erin once lived
2. Flanagan's favorite toy
4. Heartworm prevention is only effective against heartworms at this stage of development



Animal Hospital
of Shawnee Hills
Healthy Pets Happy Hearts

