

# IVH Monthly News

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March

We're on the Web!!  
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## Fun and Facts:

- A bird's heart beats 400 times per minute while they are resting.
- Cats have better memories than dogs. A cats memory can last as long as 16 hours whereas a dogs only lasts about 5 minutes.
- Iguanas are able to hold their breath for up to 30 minutes!
- Armadillos have four babies at a time and all of them are always the same sex.
- Most dogs are capable of reaching speeds up to about 19 miles per hour when running at full speed.
- A garter snake can give birth to up to 85 babies.



## Heartworm Prevention



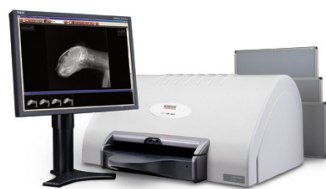
With the coming of March, the weather starts to warm up and it brings with it all the beautiful signs of spring. We start to see flowers blooming and blue skies up above, but one thing we don't always see, can be very dangerous for our pets. Mosquitoes are best known for the itchy, irritating bump they can leave behind once they bite us.

Most of us make sure to protect ourselves with sprays while outside to insure that we don't get bitten but sometimes we forget about our four legged friends we bring along. Mosquitoes can sometimes carry a potentially lethal parasite called Heartworm which invades the heart and its surrounding arteries. Heartworm disease can be very difficult to diagnose and there may be no signs in the early stages. The late stages can include symptoms such as coughing, vomiting, shortness of breath, weight loss and lethargy. Treatment is available but it is very costly and can be rather time consuming. Luckily there is a low cost preventative treatment available at most Veterinary Hospitals. With a simple monthly dose of a topical product called Revolution or a chewable flavored tablet of Interceptor, your pet can avoid this life threatening disease and enjoy many summer adventures to come. These monthly treatments are highly recommended for use throughout the spring and summer months, but to ensure your pet is fully protected we offer Revolution and Interceptor year round!



## Digital Radiographs

Idaho Veterinary Hospital is proud to present our new digital radiograph machine! With this machine we are able to cut the amount of time it takes to produce a radiograph in half! We are also eliminating the hazardous waste created from disposal of film processing chemicals. These radiographs will automatically be uploaded onto your pet's patient file so we can easily put them on a CD when needed.



## St. Patrick and Your Pet

March is best known for St. Patrick's Day, the Holiday of luck and intoxicating beverages. After a long day at work, a lot of us will go home and celebrate the Irish Holiday by enjoying an alcoholic beverage. These beverages can sometimes be left out where pets can reach them. Alcohol of any kind is very toxic to pets and can even cause death. Signs of alcohol poisoning in pets can include vomiting, loss of muscle control, disorientation, tremors and even seizures. These signs usually begin 30 to 60 minutes after ingestion. If you suspect your pet has ingested alcohol, call your Veterinarian immediately. To ensure your luck stays with you on March 17th, make sure you don't leave open containers on the counter where a pet can get to them. Happy St. Patrick's Day!

