

IVH Monthly News

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Check us out on
Facebook to get to
know our staff a little
better!

Fun and Facts

- Do you have an idea for our newsletter? Send it to beth-any@idahovethospital.com
- Out of 20,000 species of bees, only 4 make honey
- A woodpecker can peck twenty times a minute
- 33 percent of dog owners admit that they talk to their dogs on the answering machine while away from home.
- Cats step with both left legs, then both right legs when they walk or run. They're the only animal other than Camels and Giraffes that do this.



Helpful Hints for Content Creatures

During the winter, it can be very difficult to ensure our pets stay warm when outside. They may seem able to adapt with those thick fur coats, but it's not always enough to keep them toasty during the cold months of the year. Certain breeds such as Huskies and Samoyeds are able to handle the cold a little better, but pets still need adequate shelter from the harsh elements which can lead to hypothermia and frostbite.



It's best to keep pets inside for the majority of the day when it's cold, but if that is not possible then a suitable shelter with a roof and some insulation is fine. Straw or blankets can be used as padding and insulation from the cold ground. It's never a good idea to use space heaters or heat lamps as that provides a burn hazard for your pet.

Fresh water should always be provided for pets, whether inside or outside, it's important they stay hydrated. Water in a bowl outside may freeze and the pet cannot get to it, so a heated water bowl may be needed. This maintains chilly water without allowing the water to freeze.

Pets don't have shoes that they can slip on before going outside, so it's important to ensure they do not accumulate snowballs in between the toes and to keep an eye on their pads so they don't become chapped or frostbitten. Chemical deicers can also cause the pads to become chapped and dry which causes them to lick excessively. If ingested, the chemicals can be very harmful to your pet, so it is important to wash off your pets feet after a walk. With these helpful hints, your pet will stay happy and healthy during the winter months, for another fun filled year to come!



H1N1 in Dogs

The first reported case of H1N1 in a canine was found in New York last week. The 13year old dog was presented with a dry cough and lethargy. The owner of the dog did test positive for the H1N1 virus which just reiterates the importance of washing our hands and keeping our germs to ourselves, even around pets. If you have concerns regarding the H1N1 virus and your pet, give us a call.