



The Purr & Growl Newsletter

We Have A Sweet Deal for YOU!



Celebrate Valentine's day by giving your pet sweetheart medical insurance! Healthy Paws is proud to partner with Trupanion and offer a **FREE** no obligation 30 day trial of full coverage insurance. The only requirement is an exam within 24 hours of activating the insurance and we are offering a special 50% off exam to sweeten the deal! There is nothing to lose, so call now!

Trupanion Medical Insurance

Be a Tru Hero!

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One in two pets will experience a serious injury or illness. Insurance gives you the ability to pay for it. Pet insurance is best used for unexpected, catastrophic medical events which are difficult to budget for. Routine and wellness procedures are not always best handled with pet insurance. Sometimes the annual cost of adding routine care to your plan ends up being more than it would cost if you paid for these procedures out of your own pocket.

So why choose Trupanion?

Trupanion has one simple plan, has 90% coverage for major medical and surgical problems and there are

no lifetime payout limits. It also covers hereditary/congenital conditions and there is an **optional** deductible from \$0 to \$1,000. The deductible affects the monthly premium charge.

What does Trupanion cover?

- Diagnostic tests
- Surgeries (non-routine)
- Medications
- Hospital stays
- Supplements
- Therapeutic foods

**Trupanion does NOT cover pre-existing conditions, routine/preventative care, or the exam fee.*

How does it work?

You (the pet owner) pays for treatment, files the claim, and is reimbursed. It's that simple!

What if my pet has a pre-existing condition?

If your dog or cat has a condition but has not needed treatment for the past 18 months, Trupanion will still cover it!

Can I try Trupanion without having a contract?

Yes, you can! Trupanion offers a great 30 day **FREE** trial for dogs and cats. Your pet can even be up to 14 years old! This trial waives any waiting periods and gives coverage immediately.

The insurance must be activated within 24 hours of an exam but no payment information is required.

After the 30 day trial, there is no obligation to continue. Your trial expires automatically.

Cut this out for 50% off a health exam to sign up for Trupanion!

30 day FREE trial

Offer Valid Until **3/31/2012**
(VIA code PG2-12)



Pet of the Month

Sadie Needs A Home!



Sadie comes out of the crate like a rocket, then trots gracefully around the house until running out of steam and flopping heavily on the floor. Anything that is stuffed will soon become unstuffed. She loves to curl up on any available lap!

On 5/23/08, police officers seized Sadie when raiding an alleged crack house. No one was home except this sweet dog. They brought the friendly 60 pound gal into rescue. We estimate that Sadie is around 8 years old. She walks well on a leash and is most certainly house trained. Sadie loves people and will roll on her back as soon as you pet her, but does not do well with other dogs (not tested with cats). She knows her basic commands, gets along with children over 10 and is very content, well-natured senior dog.

For more info on Sadie, contact For The Love Of Dogs Rescue at (774) 244-0202 or check out their website: www.4theloveofdog.org



Bug Off!

How Bugs Can Seriously Harm Your Pet

Fleas, ticks and mosquitoes can make our pets itch, but did you know that each one of these pests can transmit serious diseases to your pet...and you?

In a pet with flea allergy dermatitis, even one flea bite can cause a reaction of itching, irritation and a secondary bacterial infection. This dermatitis is the most common allergic skin disorder in pets. And allergic or not, all pets can be infected with tapeworm from the bite of a flea. Fleas can also bite humans, and a few fleas can lead to a complete infestation of your carpets, bedding, upholstery and yard.

And what about mosquitoes? These pests make people itch, but their risk to pets goes far beyond discomfort. Mosquitoes can transmit heartworms, a parasite that's a serious problem in dogs and increasingly in cats (even indoor cats).

Can my cat get heartworm disease?

Many cases of feline asthma and bronchitis are now thought to be caused by heartworm infection. Heartworm disease can be debilitating, lengthy, difficult and expensive to treat. But heartworm disease is easy to prevent with medication from your Healthy Paws Veterinarian.

Probably the most dangerous of all the pests is the tick. Ticks can spread Lyme disease, ehrlichiosis, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, and babesiosis. The immune-system disorders can be hard to diagnose and difficult to treat. Their

symptoms can mimic so many other diseases so they are often not detected until well-advanced, or too late.

What are some symptoms of tick-borne diseases?

Symptoms include fever, lameness that can shift from limb to limb, difficulty breathing, lethargy, and loss of appetite.

Ticks can be as tiny as the period at the end of this sentence, so relying on combing or hand-searching is not effective. Worse, removing them by hand can increase the likelihood they'll transmit disease to your pets. Even if your dog is vaccinated for Lyme disease, don't let up on the tick prevention. There are no vaccines for any of the other serious tick diseases.

The SNAP 4Dx test is an in-hospital test that Healthy Paws can run on your dog to detect canine heartworm disease, Lyme disease, and two other tick-borne diseases. This test is a valuable tool in detecting diseases that if left untreated can cause life-threatening illness in dogs.

Given the seriousness of the diseases spread by ticks, fleas and mosquitoes, there's no question that prevention is the best course. Parasitic diseases vary from region to region, so talk to your Healthy Paws Veterinarian about how to protect your pet.



Real Trupanion Stories

Urinary problems are not uncommon among cats, and Cheddar was no exception. Cheddar has previously been a featured pet for Trupanion for other reasons. This time, he had been experiencing issues with his bladder in a condition that is defined by its inability to empty properly because the bladder has become dilated. Cheddar spent 9 days at the veterinary clinic receiving surgery and medication. The 7-year-old kitty is now home and recovering!

Total claim amount: \$5,350

Trupanion repaid: \$4,813

Because of their long bodies and short legs, dachshunds are prone to back problems and Marley, the 4-year-old doxie was no exception. Marley recently experienced some very acute back pain and ataxia, which is a condition of lack of coordination. He needed an MRI and was taken to the surgical center where he received spinal surgery. Marley is expected to recover just fine!

Total claim amount: \$10,442

Trupanion repaid: \$8,893

Poofy Doggy Drops Treat Recipe

Ingredients:

- 1 package dry yeast
- 1/4 cup warm water
- 1 1/2 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 cup flour
- 1 package unflavored gelatin
- 1 cup dry milk powder
- 1/4 cup corn oil
- 1 egg
- 6 ounces canned dog food (any kind)



Instructions:

Preheat oven to 300F. Dissolve yeast in 1/4 cup warm water. Mix all dry ingredients together. Add the rest of the ingredients. (Dough will be very stiff.) Drop dough by level half-teaspoons onto ungreased cookie sheet. Bake in oven at 300F for 25 minutes. Leave in oven to dry and cool.

Refer-A-Friend Program

Thank you for referring your friends!
For those who don't know how it works, it's simple.

1. Tell a friend, neighbor, or family member they can give Healthy Paws a try using a *complementary first exam and consultation new client voucher* (\$54 value)
2. Your friend fills your name on the voucher so we know who to thank
3. After the visit, we send you a Thank You card and a gift voucher!

What if my friend forgets to bring the voucher?
No worries!

Just make sure they tell us you referred them!
The new client *Refer-A-Friend* voucher is available to print from our website.

Wackiest Pet Names Of 2011!

Dogs:

1. Almost-A-Dog
2. Franco Furter
3. Stinkie Mcstinkerson
4. Sir Seamus McPoop
5. Audrey Shepburn
6. Dewey Decimell
7. Knuckles Capone
8. Beagle Lugosi
9. Shooter Mclovin
10. Uzi Duzi Du

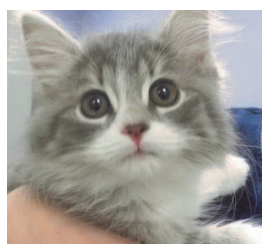
Cats:

1. Ozzy Pawsbourne
2. Mr. Meowgi
3. Murderface
4. Fuglee
5. Scruffernutter
6. Corporal Cuddles
7. Cat Masterson
8. Spam
9. Tape W. Orm
10. Louisiana Purchase

What's your pet's wacky name?!

We'd love to hear it!

www.facebook.com/HealthyPawsVetCenter



Product Of The Month

Vectra for Dogs & Cats

Vectra is a product that quickly repels and kills fleas (also ticks and mosquitoes for dogs). It kills on contact, so they don't have to bite to die! One single application protects your pet for 1 month and remains effective after bathing and swimming!

- Dogs 2-20#.....\$95.46
- Dogs 21-55#.....\$99.96
- Dogs 56-95#.....\$102.21
- Dogs over 95#.....\$105.59
- Cats \$ Kittens.....\$91.20



Buy 6 doses of Vectra & get 3 free!

Offer Valid Until
5/31/12

(Or until supplies last)



Now for the fun stuff...



I Need A Home!

Cedric (Von Tubbs)



Cedric is one special boy! He is a love, cuddler, and very friendly. He is so special and thinks he has to be the king of every hill. But he doesn't tolerate other cats at all! Once he arrived at the shelter, we noticed a couple of things - he has a funny knot at the end of his abbreviated tail (most likely a result of getting it caught in a door or something). And second he had the symptoms of a cat with diabetes. A trip to the vet confirmed it. He tolerates his medication well and is clearly feeling much better now. Come and meet his little love bug! We'll be happy to help you understand what's in his future. He needs someone as special as him to give him a home!

Contact Metrowest Humane Society - 508-875-3776
To see other kitties who need a home, visit:
www.metrowesthumanesociety.org

Trainer's Corner

Training Tips To Keep Your Pup Safe *By Jillian Gartner*

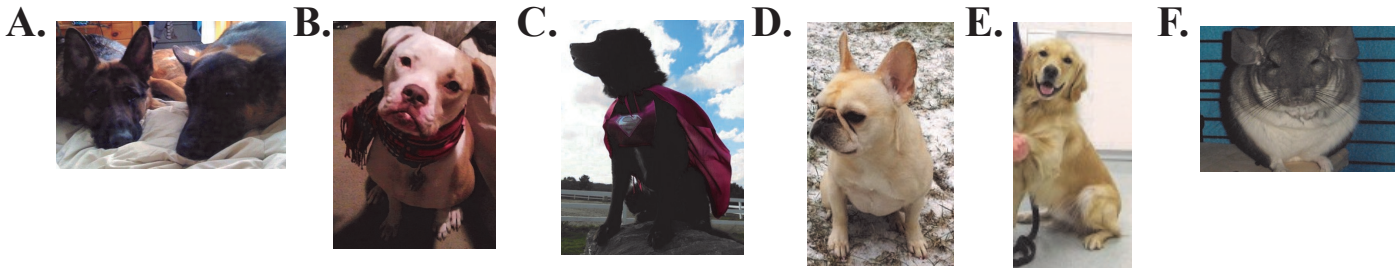
Some behaviors should be taught to **all dogs of all sizes**.

- * **"Wait"** - the dog pauses where they are until given permission to continue, This is not as strict as an actual "stay". The dog can be in any position and even move around a bit, as long as they don't cross the boundary that was set (a doorway, sidewalk, etc.)
- * **"Come"** - the dog comes straight to you, ignoring any distractions. This needs to be practiced and proofed in all sorts of situations so that your dog is ready when you actually need to use it. Use this if you dog bolts when they should have waited, if there is another dog you don't want your dog to approach, etc. to give you better safety and control.
- * **"Leave it"** - the dog does not approach/touch the object. Use this to stop your dog from eating or drinking something unhealthy, rolling in poo, chasing a squirrel, etc.

For suggestions of ways to teach these safety behaviors, check out our Healthy Paws Training & Grooming page!
www.facebook.com/HealthyPawsGroomingTraining

Can You Match The Pet To The Technician?

Submit your answers to newsletter@healthypawsvetcenter.com for a chance to win a free Lupine collar of your choice!



Sharon

Melissa

Caitlin

Shawna

Gina

Anna