



Bucksburn

Veterinary Hospital



WINTER 2018 NEWSLETTER

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- This bacterial disease in pets can infect people too – Find out how to protect your pets and family
- Quiz Corner
- Stop putting it off! Winter Dental Promo
- Welcome to Bucksburn

MERRY
Christmas

*From all of us at Bucksburn,
 have a very Merry Christmas!
 We thank you for your loyalty
 over the past year and look
 forward to serving you in*

2018!

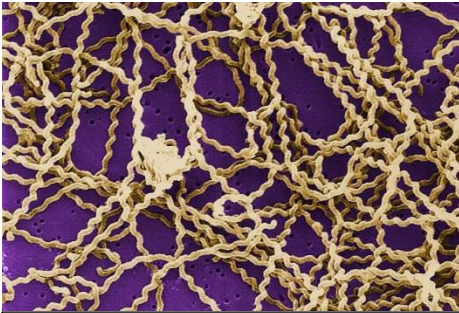


Please note that we continue to offer our **FREE after-hours phone service** should you have questions or require veterinary advice after hours (including weekends and holidays) until 11 pm. Simply call our regular clinic number and leave a message, and Dr. Glauser or a veterinary staff member will return your call within 30 minutes!

Leptospirosis

THE DEADLY BACTERIAL DISEASE IN PETS THAT CAN AFFECT PEOPLE TOO

Many of our dog owning clients are likely familiar with the term Leptospirosis. After all, a significant proportion of dogs are vaccinated annually against this disease. It is important for the dog owning public to be aware of this disease and the potential threats it poses to our own health.



Leptospira bacteria

Leptospirosis is a disease caused by *leptospira* bacteria. Leptospire are commonly carried by **rodents, skunks and raccoons**. The bacteria thrive in the liver and kidneys of these animals, and is released into the environment when they urinate. In the right conditions, the bacteria can **survive in the environment for months**.

Dogs can become infected by **ingesting the bacteria (e.g. drinking contaminated water)** or through the skin, especially if there is a cut or scratch (**e.g. swimming or wading in contaminated water**). Once infected, the bacteria can **damage the liver and kidneys** and can lead to severe, even fatal illness. Thankfully, if diagnosed and treated early, dogs usually have a complete recovery.

We take particular caution with leptospirosis in dogs because it is one of the rare infections that is **zoonotic** – meaning it can **spread from animals to people**. People that contract leptospirosis can develop non-specific signs of illness, such as lethargy, aches, and fever. In later stages of illness, meningitis, kidney failure, and liver failure can develop.



To prevent dogs from contracting leptospirosis, we recommend **annual vaccination** against this illness. While no vaccine can be considered 100% effective, the vaccine greatly reduces the risk of pets developing the disease and acting as a source of infection to their beloved family.

For more information on leptospirosis and other zoonotic illnesses, check out the **Worms and Germs blog**, at www.wormsandgermsblog.com. This website is authored by **infectious disease experts from the University of Guelph** and contains helpful information about how to keep your pets *and* your family safe from infectious disease.

QUIZ CORNER

Which of these animal illnesses can spread to people?

- Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV)
- Giardia Intestinalis* (intestinal parasite)
- Canine Distemper Virus
- Feline Leukemia Virus

Think you know the answer? **The first 3 people who send us the correct answer by email will win a FREE nail trim!** The answer to last issue's question was (c) – Raisins are toxic and should not be offered as a treat. Thanks to all those who played along!

Winter Dental Promo



Have you been putting off your pet's professional dental care? Now is the time to act! For all those whose previously offered dental discount has expired, we are offering a second chance at **10% savings** in February – all month long!

If you haven't received a dental estimate and think your pet may benefit from this procedure, please contact us to arrange a **FREE dental assessment** and we will determine the best course of action for your furry friend.

WELCOME TO BUCKSBURN!

We're happy to welcome these adorable new additions to our clinic



IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ANY OF THE TOPICS DISCUSSED, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO DROP IN, CONTACT US AT 905-257-7777, SEND US A **FACEBOOK, TWITTER, INSTAGRAM, OR SNAPCHAT** MESSAGE (@BUCKSBURNVET), OR EMAIL **BUCKSBURNVETHOSPITAL@GMAIL.COM**