



CLOVIS PET HOSPITAL



January 2018

**Senior
Appreciation
Month**

SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNTS!!!

SHOULD YOUR PET CONTINUE HEARTWORM PREVENTION ALL YEAR?

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

**JANUARY IS OUR
MONTH TO SAY...**

*Thank
you*

**TO OUR HONORED
SENIOR CITIZEN
CLIENTS.**

**20% OFF ALL ROUTINE
SERVICES AND SELECTED
PRODUCTS FOR OUR 65 AND
OVER PET PARENTS**

- WELLNESS EXAMS
- DENTALS
- NAIL TRIMS
- ANAL GLAND EXPRESSION
- OVER THE COUNTER PRODUCTS
- AND MORE

**THE IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING
YOUR PETS FROM HEARTWORM IN
THE WINTER MONTHS**

you've been to a veterinarian's office, chances are you've seen the photos on the wall of worms growing from the heart of a dog or cat.



Although these images may be unsettling, the message is clear: Heartworm disease is fatal to pets. The good news: You can protect your pet from this disease. Heartworms are carried by infected mosquitoes that transmit parasitic worms that grow in the arteries of the lungs and heart of dogs, cats, and other species of mammals. The heartworm larvae enter the bite wound and move through the pet's body and can grow up to 12 inches long.

The disease is not contagious from one pet to another and heartworms in humans are very rare.

Putting Pets at Risk
Veterinarians often prescribe heartworm prevention medicine for pets to take year-round. Due to the link to mosquitoes, some owners opt out of treating their pets during the winter months, but veterinarians see this as an unnecessary risk to the pet's health.

"You never know when the first mosquito is going to come out, or when the last mosquito is going to die. Heartworms have been reported in dogs in all 50 states and just because you live in a colder climate

state doesn't mean that your dog is safe," McLean warns.

Animal owners who stop giving heartworm prevention medication during the winter run the risk of their dog or cat contracting heartworms. If the animal becomes infected and the heartworm preventative is later resumed without testing, the owner may be putting the pet in danger. The preventive medicine can kill so many microfilariae (the offspring of adult, female heartworms) at once that it could shock the animal's system, with potentially fatal results. Also, preventatives will not kill adult heartworms and they will continue to reproduce.

For this reason, testing your dog or cat prior to starting a heartworm preventive medication is essential, especially since pets that have heartworms may not show symptoms right away.

The AMERICAN HEARTWORM PREVENTION ASSOCIATION recommends yearly testing for heartworms—even if you've kept your pet on a steady regimen of preventatives. Dogs are tested for heartworms using a simple blood test.

GOOD NEWS! Heartworm Disease is PREVENTABLE!



