

# For the Love of Dove "CHIP and CLIP"

**Laurelhurst Veterinary Hospital** will be hosting a "Chip and Clip" afternoon on Sunday, July 31, 2005 from 12 to 4pm. All proceeds from this event will go to Dove Lewis Emergency Animal Hospital's Capital Campaign. The campaign is raising funds to build their much-needed new hospital.

We will be offering low cost AVID microchips, toenail trims, brush outs, flea treatments! A pet photographer will be taking pet portraits, learn about ways you can protect your pets with Red Cross animal first aid and disaster preparedness information, Dove Lewis Emergency Animal Hospital will have an information booth, the PCC Veterinary Technician program will be present, and MUCH MORE. Raffle tickets and T-shirts will be for sale. All proceeds will go directly to Dove Lewis.

Come join the fun while we all donate to an excellent cause. Dove Lewis Emergency Animal Hospital works for the health of our pets and our community.

## Sunday, July 31, 2005 12 to 4pm



2945 NE Sandy Blvd.  
Portland, OR 97232

503.233.5222

staff@lvhvet.com  
www.lvhvet.com

By appointment

Linda S. Ross, D.V.M.  
Laura S. Strom, D.V.M.  
Pamela F. Tate, D.V.M.  
Adrienne C. Becker, D.V.M.  
Christopher L. Johnson, DVM

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## Dear Friends;

When I was a young girl growing up in the suburbs of Portland, it was common on summer days for me and my siblings to go out the door of our home after breakfast and not return until nearly dark. Riding bikes to who knows where, catching snakes in the fields, skipping rocks across ponds and streams were the highlights of the day. (Running through the neighbor's sprinklers or playing games at the park all day long was common place.) I don't remember, however, calling home or "checking in" to let my mother know where I was. The neighborhood homes and families were a network in our community upon which all families depended upon. Of course, times are very different today.



Despite the shift in our society in the past 30 years, I believe that we are beginning to rebuild our sense of community and strengthen our families as a result. Communities become strong when members deliberately and unselfishly contribute their time, strengths and passions for the benefit of someone

else; in turn becoming recipients themselves of a much desired or needed service. By providing compassionate care to you and your pets, my staff and I feel more connected and invested in the welfare of the community, one family and one beloved pet at a time. We are very proud to continue playing a part in the increasing notoriety of community in the East Portland neighborhoods.

There is no better time than summer to get out and meet your neighbors, make new friends at the dog parks or take the time to help someone in need. We hope you will join us in our support of **Dove Lewis** in their campaign to build a new hospital. Sunday, July 31, we are sponsoring our "Chip and Clip" event. All proceeds will go to Dove Lewis so please join us in an afternoon of fun and "meet-and-greet" others (furry, four-legged and humans alike) who are sure to have similar interests and passions!

Finally, we round out our summer issue with facts about keeping your animals safe in the warm season, an update on the **West Nile Virus** and a reminder about providing **Home Dental Care** for your (most cooperative!) dogs and cats. We also introduce two new and very important staff members who you will likely meet in the up coming months. And last but not least, we take a minute to brag. First, about the founding of the **Oregon Veterinary Technician and Assistant Association**, by our lead patient care technician, Tiah, and our practice manager, Nicole. And lastly, our newly-accredited hospital, having met or exceeded the 850 standards of care and practice put forth by the **American Animal Hospital Association!**

Summertime in the city is definitely here, so get out there, be safe and spend a moment to contribute something from your heart to someone or something in need. I am certain that everyone shall benefit.

Best Regards,

Linda Ross, DVM

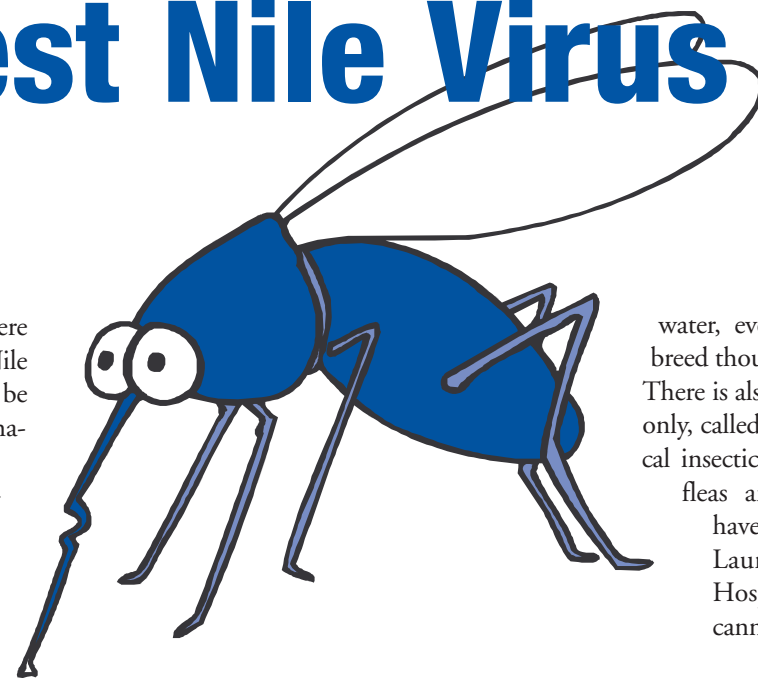


Convenient, Extended hours:  
Monday to Friday 7:00am - 8:00pm  
Saturday 8:00am - 4:00pm  
Sunday 9:00am - 4:00pm

503.233.5222

Located just off I-84 at 2945 NE Sandy Blvd.

# West Nile Virus



As the summer months start to roll in, there has been a lot of press about the West Nile Virus (WNV). We thought it would be important to give our clients some information and resources to use if needed.

The West Nile Virus is a mosquito-borne arbovirus in the genus *Favivirus*. It was first detected in 1999. It primarily affects birds but can infect bats, horses, dogs, cats, chipmunks, skunks, squirrels, rabbits and humans. Generally, the WNV is a minimal problem for animals. There is not a vaccine available yet for dogs and cats but horses have been vaccinated for many years as they are very susceptible to the disease.

Transmission of WNV is from the bite of an infected mosquito. Birds are the primary reservoir and bird migration facilitates the spread of the WNV. After an animal gets bit by an affected mosquito, the time it takes to get sick can range from 3-12 days. In humans, less than 1% of infected people will develop signs of serious illness. The fatality rate in humans is 3-15% and the elderly are most affected. In humans, the clinical signs can range from mild fever, headache, and malaise to tremors, coma and even death. In dogs and cats, most are asymptomatic. There is a high mortality in crows, and horses show signs of encephalitis – lethargy, weakness, and in-coordination. There is no treatment other than supportive care and protection against mosquitoes. Making sure your backyard is not a mosquito breeding ground is a helpful way to keep mosquitoes out of your yard. Any standing

water, even 1/2 inch deep can breed thousands of mosquitoes. There is also a product, for dogs only, called Advantix. This topical insecticide helps repel ticks, fleas and mosquitoes. We have Advantix available at Laurelhurst Veterinary Hospital. This product cannot be used on cats.

If you encounter a dead bird or are suspicious of WNV, you should wear gloves while handling the bird. To report dead birds, you can call the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Agency at 503-947-6322. The county health department also has information regarding WNV, 503-988-3816.

WNV is here in Portland, but I do not think our dogs and cats are at a severe risk of disease. In 2004 Oregon had 5 humans, 23 birds, and 32 horses affected. No dogs or cats were part of this group. Most animals, if infected, have mild illness or no signs at all. This gives them immunity and protection from being infected again.

Have a safe and happy summer. If you are interested in learning more about WNV, here are some great websites:

<http://westnilemapsusgs.gov>  
<http://www.ohd.hr.state.or.us>

■ Adrienne Becker, DVM

## Hello from Nicole!



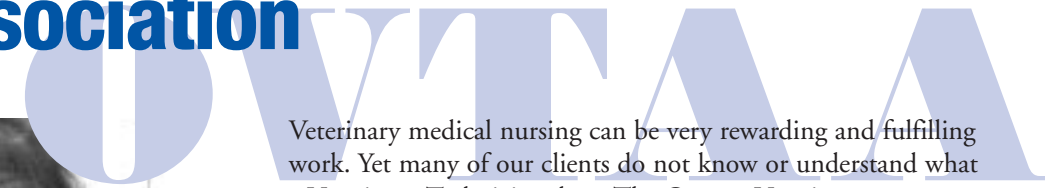
WOW! It's been 7 months since I joined the team at Laurelhurst Veterinary Hospital. A lot has happened in that time. We finished our remodeling project, held our annual Pet Remembrance Ceremony, finished our hospital brochure, installed a new and improved sign with updated landscaping and we finished our re-accreditation process for the American

Animal Hospital Association.

Since I hit the ground running, I have not been able to properly introduce myself to all our clients. HI! My name is Nicole Papageorgiou and I am the new Practice Manager of Laurelhurst. I am a Certified Veterinary Technician as well. You may find me at my desk, making appointments in the reception area, answering client questions on the phone or helping out in the back with a procedure or emergency.

My husband and I moved to Portland in August from Washington State. We share our home with Kali, a Greyhound/Shepherd mix and Bruno, a wild and crazy cat. We are having fun exploring our new home and enjoying the beauty of Oregon State. I feel very blessed and extremely lucky to be part of such a fabulous and caring team!

# Oregon Veterinary Technician and Assistant Association



Veterinary medical nursing can be very rewarding and fulfilling work. Yet many of our clients do not know or understand what a Veterinary Technician does. The Oregon Veterinary Technician and Assistant Association (OVTA) has been formed to be a voice in the community for veterinary nursing professionals. Our mission is to promote the profession and foster recognition and understanding of Veterinary Technicians and Assistants in the State of Oregon.

The nursing staff at Laurelhurst is involved in all phases of the patient care cycle: clinical exam room assisting, dentistry, surgery, anesthesia, emergency care, post-operative patient care and safety, obtaining laboratory samples, analyzing and running lab tests, client education and medical triage. The Veterinary Technicians and Veterinary Assistants are a great resource for information or help.

The OVTA had its inaugural meeting on Sunday, May 1st in Portland. We had people traveling from Albany and Eugene to attend the meeting. One of the major goals of the OVTA is to provide continuing education for all veterinary support staff. Better educated and trained staff can provide better nursing and medical care for our clients and their pets.

## AAHA Accreditation



What does it mean to be an accredited member of the American Animal Hospital Association? What does it mean for our clients and their pets?

The AAHA Accreditation standards become a yardstick for measuring the quality of patient care and a vehicle for setting specific goals for the hospital staff. The purpose of the accreditation is to enhance to abilities of veterinarians to provide quality medical care to companion animals, to successfully conduct practices and maintain their facilities with high standards of excellence, and to meet the public's needs as it relates to their pets. The AAHA standards address requirements in the following areas:

- Medical records
- Client Service
- Contagious Disease
- Continuing Education
- Dentistry
- Diagnostic Imaging
- Emergency and Urgent Care
- Examination Facilities

- Housekeeping and Maintenance
- Laboratory
- Leadership
- Medical Records
- Pain Management
- Patient Care
- Pharmacy
- Safety
- Surgery

Laurelhurst is already an accredited AAHA hospital and we recently went through our 4 Year re-accreditation evaluation. AAHA added additional polices and procedures that included new protocols, updated methods of pain management and patient care. All of the Laurelhurst staff was involved in this process, following up on the needed changes to our systems and getting the hospital ready for the big day.

We take great pride in being a member of the American Animal Hospital Association. It is one more way in which Laurelhurst is able to say we truly can offer our clients and their pets the best possible medical care.

# Home dental care for your pet

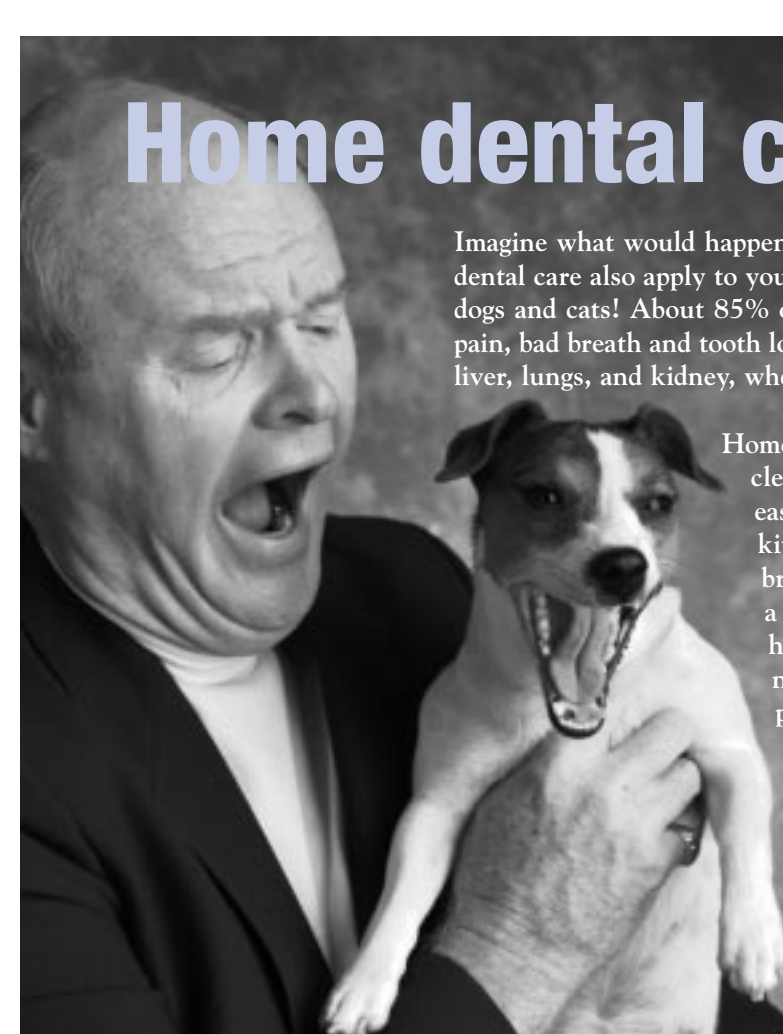
Imagine what would happen if you didn't care for your teeth regularly. The same basics of dental care also apply to your pet's teeth. Periodontal disease is the most common disease in dogs and cats! About 85% of dogs and cats have some form of it and are vulnerable to the pain, bad breath and tooth loss that could follow. Chronic infections can spread to the heart, liver, lungs, and kidney, where they do even more damage.

Home dental care for your pet is one way, along with regular dental cleanings, that can be done to work at preventing this painful disease. Laurelhurst Veterinary Hospital has free Dental Home Care kits for you to use. Inside the kit are instructions on how to begin brushing your pet's teeth, a sample of the animal toothpaste, and a small, soft bristle toothbrush for you to use. Most pets should have their teeth brushed regularly. The ideal would be every night, but 1 to 3 times a week would do a great deal to slow the progression of dental disease.

Stop by the hospital to pick up a free kit. Or better yet, make an appointment for a thorough dental examination by one of our caring doctors.

## 503.233.5222

Our pets depend on us to provide for their health and care throughout their entire lives.



## Summertime has potential hazards for your Pets

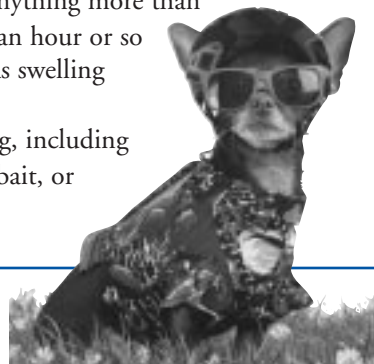
Summer is a great time to be a pet. The days are long and most kids are out of school. That leaves plenty of time for lots of attention and some serious fun.

But summer can also be dangerous. Playing or exercising a dog in the heat can bring on a lethal case of heat stroke. Burrs, foxtails, and awns from parched grasses can cause painful infections, and the chemicals we use to keep our beautiful summer yards green and control pets can poison our pets.

Prevention is the best way to protect your pet, of course. Always keep an eye out for potential hazards, and do your best to minimize or remove them. Keep pets cool and calm in the hottest part of the day, and check frequently for plants and insect problems.

These are some symptoms that definitely require urgent attention, no matter the day or hour. Among them:

- Seizure, fainting or collapse
- Eye injury, no matter how mild
- Vomiting or diarrhea, anything more than two or three times within an hour or so
- Allergic reaction, such as swelling around the face or hives
- Any suspected poisoning, including antifreeze, snail or rodent bait, or human medication



- Snakebite
- Thermal stress, a pet that has been too cold or too hot
- Any wound that's open and bleeding, or any animal bite
- Traumatic injury, such as being hit by a car
- Breathing problems, including chronic coughing or near drowning
- Straining to urinate or defecate

Sometimes an animal may seem fine, such as a dog after being hit by a car or a cat shaken by an attacking dog with no puncture wounds. But the story inside may be quite different, with internal injuries that need immediate veterinary attention. Any delay can cost your pet his life.

Most everything else can wait until morning, or even Monday if it's the weekend, but here we must add a plea on your pet's behalf: Just because something can wait, doesn't mean it should wait. If your pet is in pain, take him in. You know he'd do the same for you. Some signs of an animal in pain include panting, labored breathing, lethargy, restlessness, loss of appetite, aggression, hiding or crying out.

When in doubt on your pet's illness, call Laurelhurst Veterinary Hospital or Dove Lewis Animal Emergency Hospital, no matter the time or day or night. We are here to help you and your pets have a safe and enjoyable summer!

## Meet Our New Staff Doctor, Chris Johnson, DVM



After earning his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Illinois in Accountancy, Chris Johnson spent several years working as a business and computer consultant. After working across the United States and in Europe, Dr. Johnson discovered that his true calling was in a field he had never considered, veterinary medicine;

that he loved the puzzles of veterinary medicine and working with both the people and their pets.

As preparation for a career in veterinary medicine, Dr. Johnson worked with local humane societies, volunteered at many different veterinary practices, and worked as a veterinary technician at an emergency clinic. While a student at the University of Wisconsin – Madison School of Veterinary Medicine, he worked in clinical cancer research and in the intensive care unit of the teaching hospital.

After graduating from veterinary school, Dr. Johnson received advanced training in a medicine and surgery internship

program at Michigan Veterinary Specialists. "I love helping owners recover and maintain the quality of life they want and expect for their animal companions. I especially enjoy the challenges and sense of accomplishment with internal medicine cases and geriatric patient care," says Dr. Johnson.

Dr. Johnson is a budding woodworker and enjoys hiking and backpacking. He currently has three cats that graciously share their home with him and his wife, Valori. He is looking forward to moving out to Portland and working at Laurelhurst.



### Check out the website

## WWW.PORTLANDPOOCH.COM!

It has a variety of information ranging from a dog park guide, an event calendar, information on dog-friendly housing, best place to buy pet supplies and doggie boutiques, dog-friendly restaurants and pet massage therapists. There are links to other sites and a fun quiz you can take to see what kind of dog are you?

## CAT TRIVIA

Cats with a long lean body are more likely to be outgoing and more protective and vocal than those with a stocky build.

