



Hello everybody! Hope everyone is doing well and is ready for spring, yeah! Hope you enjoyed last month's newsletter about dental healthcare. If you have any questions about your pet's dental health, please feel free to let us know!

This month we are going to talk about micro chipping, our vet assistant, Val's idea.

Are You a Responsible Pet Owner?

Spay/Neuter, Vaccinate
and Microchip
your pet with

HomeAgain[®]

PET RECOVERY SERVICE
Part of a Program of Responsible Pet Care

Did you know?

- 30-60% of lost pets in traditional shelters are euthanized because they cannot be properly identified and returned to their owners.
- Only about 4% of cats who end up in traditional shelters are returned to their rightful owners.
- Collars and tags can easily come off or be removed.
- Micro chipping is permanent and does not change or harm the appearance of your pet in any way.



We use the Home Again® microchip system. Home Again® is an advanced pet identification and retrieval system. A microchip with a unique identification code is implanted between the shoulder blades of the pet. The pet is enrolled in the American Kennel Club (AKC) Companion Animal Recovery program. AKC-CAR maintains a national database and is available 24-hours daily, 365 days a year.

Each Home Again® microchip is designed to store a unique alphanumeric code that represents your pet's essential identification- it's the number used to determine your address and phone number. It has no batteries or internal energy source; it is activated by the low frequency emitted by the scanner. Therefore the chip will be able to transmit your pet's personal code throughout your pet's lifetime.



The microchip itself is small; it's the size of an uncooked grain of rice. It is implanted between the shoulder blades of your pet using a sterile injector. The sterile injector is not much bigger than a syringe used to give vaccinations. This can be done during an appointment slot or during a routine spay/neuter appointment.



The new Home Again® WorldScan reader reads all microchips (not just the Home Again®). It can also read Iso chips, which are used worldwide.

The Home Again Microchip offers:

- ✓ 24/7 Emergency Medical Hotline- your annual membership includes free, anytime telephone assistance provided by licensed ASPCA veterinarians- a \$60 value per call. They will coach you through the necessary pet emergency response protocol for your emergency situation.
- ✓ Medical Insurance for lost pets- your annual membership includes lost pet health insurance if your pet happens to get hurt while being lost. Your policy covers up to \$3,000 (less \$50 deductible) for medical treatment. You must call first to activate your pet's lost pet medical insurance coverage before he gets lost.
- ✓ Rapid Lost Pet Alerts- Home Again sends out rapid lost Pet Alerts to members of the Home Again Pet Recovery Network within a 25-mile radius. The lost pet network includes over 350,000 veterinarians, animal shelters, and volunteer Pet Rescuers ready to help. Hillcrest is a member of the lost network; we receive an e-mail and fax with all the pet's information once it's reported lost.
- ✓ Travel Assistance For Found Pets- your membership includes monetary assistance from Home Again to get your pet home safely.

The fee for all this is only \$49.99 for the implantation and first year activation. Then, after the first year the activation is \$16.99 per year.



DR. TIDBIT By Dr. Aaron Pollock:

Remember- the best reason to have your pet micro chipped is the greatly improved chance that you'll get your animal back if lost or stolen. Also remember, the microchip is not a tracking device and is not linked to a GPS satellite. Please talk to us at Hillcrest Veterinary Clinic if you have any questions, or if you would like to see a chip or scanner demonstration. If you do microchip your pet, please do not forget to register and keep your information updated. We can show you how!

ADOPTIONS:

I am happy to report that our little calico kitty got adopted last month. I would like to thank Josh and Cassie Miller for opening their home to this little girl. I am also happy to report that Ivan got adopted too! I would like to thank Dorothy and Rebecca for adopting this wonderful boy.

We have two adult cats this month.



Rick is a big loveable gray tabby. He is a little shy but loves attention.



Lucy is a white longhaired beauty. She is extremely friendly. They have been tested, vaccinated, dewormed and fixed. They would love to have a permanent home. 😊

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- We still have openings for our pet photography day! It is going to be Saturday March 6th, so please call and set up an appointment to get your beloved pet photographed.
- Lucky's Attic, Animal Friends thrift store, has a lot of great items for sale at their store. They have brand new, never worn wedding dresses. You should go out and check all the treasures for sale!
- There will be a dog agility show at Mylan Park April 10th and 11th. The admission is free and it is a blast to go and watch.

- Animal Friends' annual Cash Bash is April 24th, so mark your calendar.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:



My name is Valerie Vapner. I'm from Wheeling WV; I am currently a nursing student at West Virginia University. I plan to graduate in May 2011. I have been an employee of Hillcrest Veterinary Clinic since January 2009. I am very lucky to be part of two very wonderful families, one being my family back in Wheeling and my other here at Hillcrest. I enjoy spending my free time doing fun things with my friends, my boyfriend Josh, and my dog Ellie Mae (who I am sure you have seen around the clinic.)

That is all we have for this month. If you have any questions about micro chipping please feel free to contact us! Remember with this weather to wipe the salt off of your pet's feet. Salt can cause them to get irritated. Calcium chloride works well and is a little more pet friendly. 😊