



Forest Lodge Veterinary Practice



RCVS
ACCREDITED
PRACTICE
SMALL ANIMAL PRACTICE

Volume 2 Issue 1

Spring 2013 Newsletter

Spring Perils for your pets

Our Surgeries

New Milton

14 Barton Court Road

BH25 6NP

Tel: 01425 614482

Lymington

66 Milford Road

SO41 8DU

Tel: 01590 673687

Emergencies

Out of normal hours:

Tel: 07000 614482

Surgery Hours

9:00-6:30pm Mon-Fri

9:00-5pm Sat (NM)

9:00-1pm (Lym)

Visit us at:

www.forestlodgevets.com

and Facebook &
Twitter!



When the weather finally improves your pets may be spending more time in the garden. However many hidden dangers may lurk there which you need to be aware of as plants and products we use in our gardens can be toxic to pets.

Slug Pellets commonly contain the chemical metaldehyde and tend to be blue or green in colour. Great care should be taken when using these and pets should be kept away from treated areas to avoid ingestion.



Cocoa shell mulch is particularly toxic to dogs, alt-

hough many gardeners apply it to their flower beds in the spring and summer months. Dogs are attracted to these by the smell but they contain theobromine, also found in chocolate. Tree bark is a safer alternative.



Spring bulbs can be fatal if dug up and eaten by your pets. **Daffodils and Tulips** are particularly toxic to dogs and cats. Although all parts of the flower are toxic, the bulbs contain higher levels of the toxins.



Lillies are also highly toxic to cats causing kidney failure if ingested and should be avoided in both the garden and in the home as cut flowers.



When adding anything to your garden always read the label with regards to hazards to pets and if you suspect your pet has ingested anything unusual contact us immediately for advice.

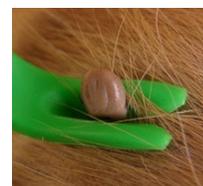
TIME FOR TICK PREVENTION!

Spring brings an increase in ticks, particularly in the New Forest. These external parasites attach to passing animal to feed on their blood. When they are full they drop off, waiting for their next feed.

Ticks carry nasty diseases so should be removed as soon as they are seen using a tick remover taking

care to remove them whole.

There are various preventative products that are available so why not chat to the vet at your next appointment or come and see the nurse for your free flea and tick check to find the right product for your pet.



PET INSURANCE POINTERS!

In a typical year roughly 1 in 3 pets will require veterinary treatment, so unexpected bills can occur at any time. Recent advances in veterinary medicine have meant that more options are available than ever before but they can come at a price. Because of this we usually recommend pet insurance to help fund your pet's treatment.

We routinely fill out insurance claims forms for our clients but we would ask if you could help us by:

- fully completing the form as per insurance companies directions: we are not permitted to complete client sections. The condition claimed for doesn't have to be tech-

nical—just in your own words! If names are different to our records please indicate this to us when submitting the form.

- Unfortunately we are only able to claim directly from Petplan, for other companies you need to pay the bill before we submit the claim.
- All continuation claims require another claims form to be submitted, we cannot submit any claims without a signed form.
- IF you are claiming yourself from Petplan please complete and return the form

before the end of the month or the computer will automatically surcharge the account.

- Because of the volume of claims we handle it may take up to 14 days for us to submit the claim to your insurers. If you require it completed quicker than this we can but it will incur an extra fee.

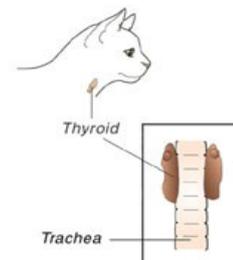
If you have any queries about insurance please contact us and we will be happy to help.

FELINE HYPERTHYROIDISM

This very common disorder in older cats is caused by an increase in production of thyroid hormones from the thyroid glands, which are situated in the neck. Symptoms generally include weight loss, increased appetite and thirst, irritability and restlessness. Traditionally treatment has either been surgery or daily tablets but there is now a new daily gel and a prescription diet which can help to alleviate symptoms and are designed to make life easier for both the owner

and the cat since giving tablets can be a nightmare for many felines. The prescription diet is a low iodine food which needs to be fed as the sole source of nutrition and comes in either dry or wet form. The gel is placed on the skin of the inner ear flap on a daily basis and replaces the need for tablets, which can be an easier option for fractious cats. If you think your cat is exhibiting any of these symptoms then please do bring them for an examination; diagnosis includes feeling for an enlarged thy-

roid and a blood test. If your cat is currently on thyroid treatment and you would like to discuss changing to any of the new options then please don't hesitate to contact us.



Discounts!

10% OFF FURMINATORS

These handy de-shedding tools come in different sizes and coat lengths



The blades remove the loose undercoat without removing the top coat and does not damage the skin.



FURminators are also available for small pets.

**ROYAL CANIN**

25% OFF ROYAL CANIN LIFESTAGE AND VET CARE NUTRITION DIETS

This offer is available for **1.5kg** bags of feline diets and **1.5 to 4kg** bags of canine diets until **28th February 2013.**