

COMPANION ANIMAL NEWS FALL 2003

Doggie Delights: here is a fun recipe for you to make your own dog biscuits.

2 cups whole wheat flour
½ cup uncooked oatmeal
¼ teaspoon cinnamon
¼ cup applesauce
1 tablespoon honey
½ cup water
carob chips (optional)
cookie cutters (optional)

1. Combine flour, oatmeal and cinnamon in a large mixing bowl.
2. Stir in the applesauce, honey, and water then knead until well mixed.
3. Form dough into a soft ball. Spread it out with a rolling pin until the dough is about ¼ inch thick. (if sticky, add more flour)
4. Use your favorite cookie cutters to cut out fun shapes. Or tear apart and form into

bone or paw shaped pieces. Place on greased cookie sheet and bake at 325° for 20 to 25 minutes. Let cool completely.

5. Melt the carob chips, drizzle or use a toothpick or spoon to decorate the cookies.

If you have a **cat**, try adding a touch of catnip!

Speaking of **CATS**, if you use plastic dishes to give your cat it's food or water, **STOP!** Research has shown that plastic dishes lead to **feline acne**. Similar to human acne, this condition can lead to pustules and dirt like debris on the skin and face of cats. Our clinic cat, Milo had it last year until we realized that all we needed to do was change his food dish. Antibiotics help some, but it tends to come right back until the dish is changed. So switch to glass or metal and keep the acne away!

We have a variety of **new products** on our shelves:

-**Advantix®** – a well-advertised and very effective form of tick and flea control. It also is labeled to repel mosquitoes. We will still have Frontline® around for a while, but will probably phase it out just because it's good to rotate products every few years. We are finding more ticks on Frontline® treated dogs than we did in years past. The price is the same per dose. Right now we have it in 6 packs, and will be ordering 4 packs soon.

-**Grass Saver®** – We have been asked more than once if there is anything that will prevent those brown spots in the yard from dog urine. It's especially noticeable after the snow melts. Dr. Jean tried this product with her dogs, and has had good luck with it. It is a natural remedy, and doesn't seem to have any side effects with it.

-**Quiet Moments®** - Another herbal remedy for dogs with anxiety over storms, fireworks, changes in household, etc. Can be used daily or as needed.

- **Breath-A-Licious® dog chews**. The package says they are a functional dental treat for a kissable companion! They are comparable to another product called 'greenies', but are less expensive. They clean teeth, freshen breath, and aid in digestion. They're on the front counter, so check them out the next time you stop in!

Many of you have opted to order your medications from **Pet Med Express**, or other on-line pharmacies this year. We would like you to know that in many cases, we are less expensive (on heartworm tablets for example, we were \$1 less per tablet), so double check the price difference before you order. It is our policy to charge a \$5-10 prescription writing fee for products that we carry in the clinic.

SEPTEMBER IS SENIOR PET HEALTH CARE MONTH - we will be promoting our senior wellness program this month, which includes yearly exams, baseline blood and urine checks, and nutritional counseling for both dogs and cats. As part of our promotion, the Iams® company is helping us give away food bins with each purchase of Senior Plus™, Feline Mature™, or Adult Plus™ Eukanuba Veterinary diets.

Approximately 1 in 5 adult dogs has joint health issues. Proactive nutrition can slow down the progress of joint disease and help maintain good joint health. Eukanuba Veterinary Diets Adult Plus™ and Senior Plus™.

MORE CHANGES – Our beloved receptionist of 10 years, Tammy Zickert, is leaving us October 10th to get married and move to California. Congratulations, Tammy!! We will ALL miss her VERY much! In her place, we have a new face, Lori Peterson. Lori hails from the Madison area originally. She, her husband Jeff, and 3-year-old daughter Amanda, live in the City Point area on a cranberry marsh. Welcome to Lori. She knows that she has some big shoes to fill, and will appreciate your patience and understanding during the learning process.

Also leaving is Dr. Sabine Hartmann. Thank you Dr. Hartmann for your 2 years of dedicated service. Dr. Jean is currently looking to hire another full time veterinarian. We will keep you posted.

Have a wonderful fall, and hope to see you soon.