



Welcome to our November Newsletter

We are heading into the summer months and with the nicer weather unfortunately come some hazards for your pet. We have touched on some of these issues in this newsletter.

Snakebite

Summer is fast approaching; this means its perfect weather for snakes. We have already seen a number of snakebite cases at the clinic.

Snakebite in dogs and cats is quite common. Prevention is always better than cure so keep grass and brush cut back around the house. Try to limit the amount of water lying around; particularly when it gets to summer and it becomes hot and dry. Maintain a close watch on your dog when exercising, especially if it is off the lead and free to sniff around. Sometimes their bark changes when they find a snake as they become excited.

If your dog is bitten seek veterinary attention immediately. A quick phone call to let us know you are on your way will ensure quick efficient treatment on your arrival. Absence of bite marks doesn't always mean that your dog hasn't been bitten – snake bite marks are very small and almost impossible to detect.

The onset of clinical signs varies in accordance with the bite site (an animal bitten on the nose or mouth will show signs much sooner than one bitten on the leg), the severity of the bite (thick coats are naturally more difficult for the fangs of a snake to penetrate) and the amount of times the animal was

bitten – the venom sacs of a snake work the same way as the salivary glands and refill quickly after each bite.

Some of the signs to look for are shaking, shivering, excess salivation (drooling), vomiting, pale gums, weak rapid pulse and collapse.

Time is of the utmost importance when treating snakebite. Don't wait for symptoms to appear, act quickly and seek veterinary help.



**ENJOY AN
OUTING WITH
YOUR DOG**

A – B CARSICK FREE

Traveling with pets as members of the family is becoming more opportune. The number of holiday destinations that accept pets is on the increase and there are opportunities to take dogs to pet friendly parks, beaches etc. Still, one in four dogs will suffer from vomiting caused by motion sickness. It can prevent your whole family from taking a trip, causing you to miss out on adventures together. If you leave your dog behind it may be stressful and costly.

With canine motion sickness the leading reason pet owners are not able to take their dogs on day trips or vacation, Bannockburn Veterinary Clinic is encouraging more people to talk to us about managing travel with your dog.

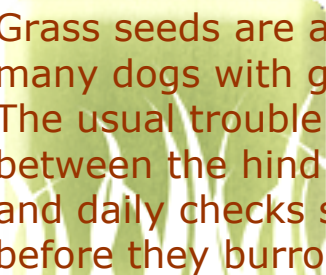
There is a new canine medication for the prevention of vomiting caused by motion sickness. This treatment is now available in Australia.

As the medication does not cause drowsiness, dogs will be alert during travel and upon arrival. And will thus be able to

enjoy the destination, resulting in a more positive experience for the entire family.

More families will now be able to enjoy the company of their dog as they take day trips or longer vacations.

GRASS SEEDS



Grass seeds are a major problem over the summer months; we see many dogs with grass seeds embedded in their skin and in their ears. The usual trouble spots are between the toes, under the elbows and between the hind legs. Long haired breeds are particularly susceptible and daily checks should be made to pull the seeds out of the coat before they burrow into the skin.

Keeping the coat short over the summer months reduces the risk of grass seed problems and has the added benefit of helping to keep your dog cool and comfortable. Special attention should be made to keeping the hair between the toes and inside the ear lobes very short as the fibers on grass seeds are designed to catch on the hair.

Bannockburn Veterinary Clinic has a professional groomer so please call to book for an appointment.

REVOLUTION

The weather is getting warmer and fleas are on the move. Flea eggs that have been lying dormant over the winter months are stimulated to hatch.

Flea collars, powders and shampoos are NOT the most effective treatment. To keep your pets' flea free you must commit to a year long program.

If you treat your dogs and cats with **Revolution** each month you will be killing fleas and breaking the life cycle.

Revolution kills adult fleas rapidly, kills eggs and larvae in the environment.

In addition to treating and controlling fleas in dogs and cats **Revolution** also prevents heartworm disease and treats and prevents ear mites in dogs and cats; treats and prevent sarcoptic mange (fox mange) in dogs and hookworm and roundworm in cats.

Our **Revolution Rewards Programme** is still running and has been a great success; savings of up to \$60 (a free 3 month pack plus free worming) are proving very popular.

Cheers the team at Bannockburn Veterinary Clinic

