

Welcome

Hope everyone is well and practicing your social distancing! Normally for April's newsletter we would be talking about fleas and ticks, heartworm, all the normal spring time topics, but these are unusual times. This month we will be sharing some information with you from the CDC regarding Covid-19 and pets. If you have any questions or have a topic you would like to hear about please contact our staff at 630-365-9599 or you can contact us via email at 3lburn@sbcglobal.net

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses. Some coronaviruses cause cold-like illnesses in people, while others cause illness in certain types of animals, such as cattle, camels and bats. Some coronaviruses, such as canine and feline coronaviruses, infect only animals and do not infect humans.

Risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people

Some coronaviruses that infect animals can sometimes spread to humans and then spread between people, but this is rare. Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) are examples of diseases caused by coronaviruses that originated in animals and are spread to people. This is what is suspected to have happened with the virus that caused the current outbreak of COVID-19. The first infections were linked to a live animal market, but the virus is now spreading from person to person. The coronavirus most similar to the virus causing COVID-19 is the one that causes SARS.

The virus that causes COVID-19 spreads mostly from person to person through

respiratory droplets from coughing and sneezing. At this time, there is no evidence that companion animals, including pets, can spread COVID-19 to people or that they might be a source of infection in the United States.

Risks from imported animals and animal products

The CDC does not have any evidence to suggest that imported animals or animal products pose a risk for spreading COVID-19 in the United States. This is a rapidly evolving situation and information will be updated as it becomes available.

Regulation of imported animals and animal products

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) play distinct but complementary roles in regulating the importation of live animals and animal products into the United States. CDC regulates animals and animal products that pose a threat to human health: USDA regulates animals and animal products that pose a threat to agriculture: and FWS regulates importation of endangered species and wildlife that can harm the health and welfare of humans, the interests of agriculture, horticulture, or forestry, and the welfare and survival of wildlife resources.

Stay healthy around animals

In the United States, there is no evidence to suggest that any animals, including pets, livestock, or wildlife, might be the source of COVID-19 infection at this time. However, because all animals can carry germs that can make people sick, it's always a good idea to practice healthy habits around pets and other animals.

- 1) Wash your hands after handling animals, their food, waste, or supplies
- 2) Practice good pet hygiene and clean up after your pets properly
- 3) Talk to your veterinarian if you have questions about your pet's health

For more information, visit CDC's Healthy Pets, Healthy People website.

Risk of people spreading COVID-19 to pets

CDC has not received any reports of pets or other animals becoming sick with COVID-19 in the United States.

CDC is aware of a very small number of pets outside the United States reported to be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 after close contact with COVID-19 positive people. To date, there is no evidence that pets can spread the virus to other animals or people. CDC is working with human and animal health partners to monitor this situation and will continue to provide updates as information becomes available.

Further studies are needed to understand if and how different animals could be affected by COVID-19.

Protect pets if you are sick

If you are sick with COVID-19 (either suspected or confirmed), you should restrict contact with pets and other animals, just like you would around other people. Although there have been no reports of pets or other animals becoming sick with COVID-19, it is still recommended that people sick with this virus limit contact with animals until more information is known about the virus. This can help ensure both you and your pets stay healthy.

- 1) When possible, have another member of your household care for your pets while you are sick
- 2) Avoid contact with your pet including petting, snuggling, being kissed or licked and sharing food.
- 3) If you must care for your pet, wash your hands before and after you interact with them.

How can I keep my home clean and safe for my pets?

Some cleaners that help prevent COVID-19 aren't safe for pets. Keep pets out of rooms where you're using cleaners that contain bleach, alcohol and other powerful chemicals.

Don't leave cleaners out where your pets could stick their paws into them.

Follow the product instructions, some cleaners need to sit for a bit to be effective, but surfaces can be rinsed to avoid burning tender paws.

If your pet needs a bath, only use products intended for bathing pets. Other cleaners can hurt them.

This information was obtained from the CDC website, dated March 27, 2020.

<http://www.cdc.gov>



Wishing you a blessed Easter! Many of us will not be able to celebrate with our families or go to church, but we pray everyone is well and this will hopefully be over soon so we can all celebrate together! Our prayers are with you all. Also our prayers and thanks go out to

our Dr.'s, nurses, all hospital staff, and all essential workers, God bless and keep you all!



If you have any questions or comments, please email us at 3lburn@sbcglobal.net or call 630-365-9599! If you have a subject you would like covered in our newsletter please let us know!