

# TOWN & COUNTRY VETERINARY CLINIC

## 24 HOUR VETERINARY EXCELLENCE



### IN THIS ISSUE:

- SEASONAL ATOPY
- HEARTWORM DISEASE
- WELCOME JACK!
- MONTHLY SPECIALS

### FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

- FACEBOOK
- INSTAGRAM
- TWITTER

### CONTACT US:

- (540) 382-5042 (O)
- (540) 382-6102 (F)
- [MAIL@TCVCCARES.COM](mailto:MAIL@TCVCCARES.COM)
- OPEN 24/7

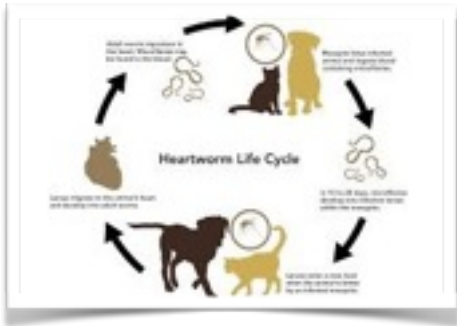


## WHAT'S CAUSING YOUR DOG'S ITCHING?

Atopic dermatitis is an inflammatory reaction of the skin caused by allergies. Common allergens such as dust mites, grass, and other environmental agents are inhaled and absorbed through the skin, stimulating irritated areas. More often than not, dogs react to this disease by chronic licking and chewing.

Similar to human allergies, atopy begins in the early spring when pollen counts rise. Sometimes, the itching can progress to a year-round problem. Secondary yeast and bacterial infections can occur from constant scratching and will need to be medically treated.

Common breeds effected by seasonal atopy include but are not limited to West Highland Terriers, English Bulldogs, and Golden Retrievers. An examination with your pet's veterinarian will assist in establishing if allergies are a likely cause of the skin irritation. Diagnosis of such conditions can be performed through blood or intra-dermal skin tests. Since atopy rarely diminishes on its own, it is most important to get a treatment plan underway early on.



## HEARTWORM DISEASE:

Warm weather means longer walks, outside playtime, and unfortunately, an increase in insect populations!

Mosquitos are the vector for heartworm transmission (even in felines!). Heartworms, known as *Dirofilaria immitis*, are long, spaghetti-like worms that range in size from 6-10 inches and commonly occupy the right side of the heart in an infected animal. When the infectious mosquito bites your dog or cat, the heartworm microfilariae are transmitted and eventually make their way to the heart and begin reproducing.

Clinical signs include:

- Coughing
- Shortness of breath, exercise intolerance
- Weight loss

Heartworm prevention should be consistently given year-round. Most of these products are once-a-month administration and can often be combined with monthly flea and tick prevention.

## MEET JACK!

Have you spotted our new billboards located throughout the New River Valley? We want to officially welcome our newest Town and Country member, Jack. You can find him in various places around the clinic. Stay tuned for more adventures!



## MONTHLY SPECIALS:

Take advantage of our summer offers!

June: \$5 off ANY service

July: 10% off dentals

August: \$5 off any service

September: \$10 off wellness

**\$5 off Purina  
Veterinary Diet**

Valid on 18 lb bag or  
greater only

**FREE Wellness  
Exam for any  
NEW client with  
a healthy pet**

**\$5 off ANY service**

Expires 6/30/15

**FREE Birthday  
Nail Trim**

Valid during pet's  
birthday month only.