



Summer Newsletter



Specials: Comfortis & Trifexis

Elanco, the makers of Comfortis and Trifexis, are offering \$7 off the purchase of a box of either product. If you did not receive a coupon in the mail, we have a limited supply of coupons at our office. Come by our office and get a box with a coupon before we run out.



Toxic Corner: Xylitol



Summer is the season when folks are losing weight to look good in those swimsuits. Oftentimes, low sugar diets are part of the weight loss plan. Unfortunately, pet owners sometimes share their low/no sugar foods with their dogs not realizing that one ingredient can be toxic to their pet: xylitol. Xylitol is a sugar substitute used in sugar-free gum, candy, foods and oral hygiene products. In dogs, xylitol ingestion can cause severe low blood sugar, liver failure, bleeding and death. Even small doses can be toxic. For example, 2 pieces of

sugar-free gum containing xylitol can be toxic to a 20 lb dog. Its effects on cats are unknown so best to avoid exposure for cats as well. If you have xylitol containing foods in your household, make sure that your dog or cat cannot have access to that food. If your dog were to consume anything containing xylitol, seek IMMEDIATE veterinary care. Call our office at (337) 269-4031.

Summer Travel



If you are traveling with your pet this summer, check out these websites for pet-friendly travel info:

- www.petswelcome.com
- www.tripswithpets.com
- www.dogfriendly.com
- www.petsonthego.com

Pet-friendly hotels, dog parks, and other useful info will help make traveling with your pet as comfy as possible. If you'd like to board your pet, we offer veterinary-supervised, climate-controlled boarding for cats, dogs and rabbits. We have a large privately fenced yard where dogs are walked 3 times daily. The doctors oversee special needs patients such as diabetics. Please schedule your boarding reservation as least one week before your planned vacation and 2 weeks before major holidays to ensure a reservation for your pet.

Technology: Microchipping

If your pet were lost or stolen, how would you find it? A microchip is an inexpensive way to permanently identify your pet. A small inert capsule is placed under your pet's skin and can be scanned for identification. Registration with the national database is free, and we handle the paperwork for you.

We have reunited several lost pets with their pet parents by virtue of the microchip. Dr. Randall and Dr. Lyons both have their personal pets microchipped. Microchip placement does not require anesthesia and is given by injection between the shoulder blades. It takes less than 5 minutes to place the chip, and it lasts for the lifetime of the pet. Call our office at (337) 269-4031 to schedule an appointment.

You may also visit the following website for more information:

<http://www.24petwatch.com/why-microchip-your-pet.asp>

Questions?

We would love to tailor our newsletters around your interests and concerns. If you would like to share your newsletter interests with us, e-mail us at: stfrancisveterinary@gmail.com