



AWC News

A Newsletter of the Animal Welfare Council/ Allegheny Spay & Neuter Clinic

“For friends of animals”

January 2019

**Animal Welfare Council/Allegheny Spay & Neuter Clinic - 1380 Shawville Hwy,
Woodland, PA 16881**

814-857-5280 - www.animal411.net - visit us on Facebook

Centre Hall Satellite - 2481 General Potter Hwy, Centre Hall, PA 16829 814-364-1630



It is our sincere hope that everyone had a warm and enjoyable holiday season and is filled with hope at the start of a new year. We are now in the chill of winter when glimpses of sun may be rare, and the days seem short. There are still plenty of opportunities for fun activities that can even be pet-friendly! Grab your gloves and venture outside for fresh air and a refreshed attitude!

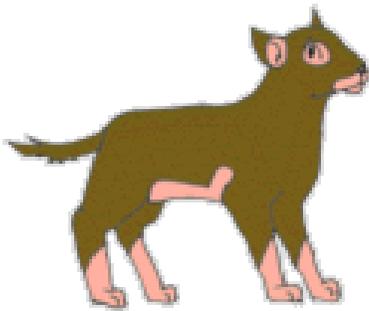
AWC Board of Directors and Allegheny Spay and Neuter Clinic Staff



In an effort to be more environmentally friendly, as well as to save costs, we will no longer be mailing our newsletter using the post office. Please feel free to forward this e-mail to your friends and family to spread our message!

Educational Opportunities

One of the main goals of the AWC is to be a resource and provide information and education to the community about pet care. Whether it's working with a group of 4H teens to discuss the need for spay/neuter, speaking to a group of adults in the community about Lyme Disease, or working with area youth to help lessen the frequency of dog bites, there are individuals available to speak to your group about animals and their care. To arrange for a speaker to come to your group, call the Allegheny Spay and Neuter Clinic at 857-5280.



Your Pet's Itchy Skin



Itchy skin in the small animal is often more than just a minor annoyance. Red, oozing bald patches; rashes; and large expanses of hair loss are unfortunate markers of very real discomfort for which a cause should be sought and dealt with.

Food allergy is one of the itchiest conditions known to cats and dogs. Animals eat a variety of processed food proteins, flavorings, and colorings that are further processed inside their bodies. Proteins may be combined or changed into substances recognized by the immune system as foreign invaders to be attacked. The resulting inflammation may target the gastrointestinal (GI) tract or other organ systems, but in dogs and cats it is the skin that most often suffers from this immunologic activity. Cats itch around the face or neck which produces scabs and hair loss. In dogs, signs include facial itching, foot or limb chewing, itchy anal area, and recurrent ear infections.

Many people erroneously assume itching due to food allergy requires a recent diet change of some sort. In fact, the opposite is true.

Food allergy requires time to develop; most animals have been eating the offending food for years with no trouble.

What Kind of Allergy?

Allergic skin disease and its secondary infections dominates small animal practice. Pets can be allergic to insect bites (fleas are not inherently itchy unless the pet is allergic to flea bites), airborne proteins (such as molds, pollens, and dust mite parts) or foods. Pets can and often do have multiple allergies adding together to make them itchy. The skin infections that come from scratching perpetuate the itching. To solve the problem, the infection must be cleared up and the offending allergen(s) removed from the pet's world.

There is controversy about how common food allergy is in dogs and cats. Some experts feel it

is relatively rare while others feel is much more common than we realize. It is hard to tell because there is no simple test for food allergy and the skin lesion distribution is difficult to distinguish from that of airborne allergy, which is frequently concurrent in the same patient.

So what are our clues that a pet has a food allergy? There are several hints:

- The itching is not seasonal (this is obviously hard to tell in areas that do not freeze during winter).
- Itching started when the pet was less than 6 months of age or greater than 5-6 years of age.
- No response to treatment for sarcoptic mange.
- Corticosteroids have not been helpful in managing the itching. Corticosteroids may or may not work on food allergy itching but they almost always work for other allergies.
- There are accompanying intestinal signs like vomiting or diarrhea. These are seen in 30 percent of food allergic pets.
- The lesion distribution is compatible with food allergy , especially if an itchy anal area and/or recurrent ear infections are involved.

Any of the above findings or observations warrant pursuit of food allergy.

Please note that several of the above criteria relate to what you, the owner, observe at home. Trouble results when the veterinarian must speak to different family members about the pet and there is disagreement in their observations. It is best to have one person, preferably the one who has the most contact with the pet, be the spokesperson and make the relevant judgments.

article accessed on **VeterinaryPartner.org** January 8, 2019

written by Wendy Brooks DVM, DABVP

Adoptable Pets

The following animals are staying at the **Clearfield County SPCA** and looking for a great home! Please call them at **765-2220** if this might be you.

Meet Cola

Pet ID: 39491034



Breed: Pit Bull terrier

Age: unknown

Color: white/brown

Gender: male

Size: medium

Hey everyone, my name is Cola, and I was found running around the Coalport area. I can be shy at first, but I do know some wicked commands and love doing tricks for treats. I also really enjoy going outside and playing in what they call here a dog yard. it's super fun! Swing on by, and take me outside. Maybe we will become best friends!!

Meet Dora

Pet ID: 39437787

Breed: Pit Bull terrier mix
Gender: female

Age: 7 yrs.
Size: large

Color: tan/black



Hi there, the name is Dora! I'm about 7 and a half years old, but age is just a number right? I feel just like a 7 month old pup most of the time. I love to make new friends and soak up all the attention that I can. I do like to be in charge though, so it may be best if I'm the only dog in house. Squeak toys are totally my favorite: GIVE ME ALL THE SQUEAK TOYS. I know I might be over 60 pounds but you can bet your bottom that I am going to climb right into your lap for some snuggles. I promise I feel light as a feather! Stop out and visit me, I promise that you won't be disappointed!

Meet Sir Reginald III

Pet ID: 39843095

Breed: domestic short hair
Gender: male **Size:** small

Age: 4 yrs.

Color: grey/white



Hey! The name is Sir Reginald III. Now bow down before me as I am king of this cat room. I was brought into the shelter as a stray. Life at the shelter is pretty good. I have the employees trained to bring me food, clean my litter box, and cuddle with me on a daily basis. It can be a lonely life though. I usually keep to myself in the cat room. Wanna stop out and spend some time with me? That's cool! When you stop by you can find me on my thrown in the corner of the cat room!

Meet Robin

Pet ID: 39299527

Breed: domestic medium hair
Gender: female

Age: 7 mos.
Size: small

Color: grey/white



Robin, Wren, Merlin, and Falcon are a spunky litter of adorable kittens. Their purrs can be heard across the room. After playing all afternoon these babies are looking for a lap to snuggle up on. Please stop out and meet these cuties today!



Make a resolution to treat every month!!

It is hard to emphasize enough the importance of a monthly flea and tick preventative. Even animals that never leave your house or yard are potential victims for parasites. The most reliable and effective plan for prevention is to use a quality product monthly. Here is a summary of just a few veterinary-approved products, all of which are available at the clinic.

We still see fleas even when the air is cold and the snow falls!!

DOGS

Frontline Gold

- ☀ safe for dogs 8 weeks and older
- ☀ kills fleas (eggs, larvae, and adults)
- ☀ kills ticks (including deer ticks)
- ☀ no bathing or swimming for 48 hours post-application

Nexgard

- ☀ safe for dogs 8 weeks and older and 4 lbs. and up
- ☀ kills fleas
- ☀ kills ticks (including deer ticks)

CATS

Frontline Gold

- ☀ safe for cats 8 weeks and older
- ☀ kills fleas (eggs, larvae, and adults)
- ☀ kills ticks (including deer ticks)
- ☀ no bathing or swimming for 48 hours post-application

Revolution

(by prescription only)

- ☀ safe for cats 8 weeks and older
- ☀ kills fleas (eggs and adults)
- ☀ prevention of heartworm disease
- ☀ treatment of ear mites
- ☀ kills roundworms and hookworms
- ☀ no bathing or swimming for 2 hours post-application

Expanded Clinic Hours

We are now open **4 days a week (Monday through Thursday)**, with some weeks a full **5** days of operating hours. Our larger staff of vets allows us to expand our availability to serve you more conveniently. Please be advised that a veterinarian **must** approve all prescription refills and must be **on-site** for vaccines to be administered. Please call the clinic if you are unsure of our availability to meet your needs.

AWC/Allegheny Spay & Neuter Clinic Wish List.....

dog food, cat food, stamps, envelopes (business size), garbage bags (tall), paper towels. Monetary donations are also appreciated in any amount. Memorial or Honorary donations can be made and will be recognized with a notification card. Gift certificates are available for spaying and neutering. Items can be dropped off at the clinic during business hours – **8:00 AM – 4:00 PM - Mondays/Tuesdays/Wednesdays/Thursdays.** *Thank you for helping us help area animals. All donations are tax deductible.*



If you see animals being neglected or abused, call the Clearfield County SPCA @ 814-765-2220.

If you haven't already, check out our Facebook page (Allegheny Spay and Neuter Clinic/Animal Welfare Council) for information about current events and animal care.



Animal Welfare Council / Allegheny Spay & Neuter Clinic

1380 Shawville Hwy, PO Box 97, Woodland Pa 16881

(814) 857-5280 Fax (814) 857-5281

1-5-19

Dear Community Member,

We are a 501©3 non-profit for animals located in Woodland Pa and Centre Hall Pa. Our mission is to do the greatest good for the greatest amount of animals. Our primary goal is to offer low cost spay and neuters to the public as well as shelters and rescue groups across central Pennsylvania to reduce the number of unwanted animals. We have recently started offering office visits for wellness and sick animals, due to the large demand in our area. We also provide a pet food pantry, dog shelter program, free straw, and education. We opened our doors in 2009 and have been going strong for 10 years now.

Unfortunately we have had a few struggles in the last few months. Our heating system went and we had to replace it all, we had to remodel to expand to accommodate the volume of animals coming in, we had to purchase new equipment, and our transport bus that travels to all the different shelters needs a new transmission. All of these things have depleted our funds.

We are not here to make money, but we need to break even to keep our doors open and to keep our prices at a minimum to help the less fortunate animals in our area. We are writing to you in the case that you might like to make a monetary donation to help us continue our mission. Your donation would be tax deductible. We will also be making a sponsorship board to place in our lobby to show our appreciation to those who give towards this cause.

We sincerely hope you had a wonderful holiday season, and will continue the spirit throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Kimberly McKenrick, Executive Director, and The Allegheny Spay and Neuter Clinic