



## Mews & News

### Announcing Online Pharmacy Shopping from Riverside Cat Hospital!



Tired of having to come to the clinic to pick up your cat's medication? Want to buy your pet's flea preventative online, but don't trust the big online pharmacies? We are happy to announce Riverside Cat Hospital's new online pharmacy! We offer all of the convenience of shopping online, with the integrity you've come to expect from your local veterinarian.

#### Why should you order from us?

- We know your pet! Our clinic staff will personally review your prescription request to be sure that it is the right medication and dosage for your pet. And we will be able to quickly and accurately answer any questions you may have about your pet's medication.
- Shipping is free on orders over \$38.98, and only \$5 for orders less than \$38.98.
- All of our clinic medications are sourced from a reputable veterinary supplier, located here in the United States. Some big online pharmacies get their medications from suppliers in other countries, and these medications may not be FDA approved.
- If your pet ever has a problem with a medication that you buy from us, the manufacturer will stand behind their product and do what is needed to ensure that your pet is okay. Many drug manufacturers do not offer any guarantees on products that are purchased through unauthorized pharmacies.



Click on the link at the left to visit our website pharmacy page. Once you receive your login information, browse through the list of available medications. You will find flea and heartworm preventatives, dental care products, prescription pet foods, grooming supplies, Soft Paws nail caps, Feliway, and a selection of prescription medications.

Don't see what you're looking for? Let us know and we may be able to get it for you. Check it out today and let us know what you think! We're very excited to be able to offer this new service to our clients!

### Traveling with your Cat

With summer travel right around the corner, now is the time to make plans for your cats while you are away. Many of us leave these important details until the last minute, but there are steps that you should take while you are still in the early stages of planning your trip.



Sometimes, leaving your cat at home with a pet sitter, or boarding her at a kennel facility, is the best option. We do not recommend leaving your cat alone for more than 48 hours without someone to care for her. If your cat is going to be traveling with you, there are some important issues to consider. Cats traveling by car often settle down after 15-30 minutes, and can do well for longer rides. Sedatives or medications for motion sickness can be helpful if your cat does not ride well. For her safety, your cat should be confined in a carrier and offered water at least every 4 hours. Withhold food at least 8 hours prior to the trip to prevent motion sickness. Be sure the carrier is kept cool, and if it is large enough, a small litter tray in the corner can be helpful.



Cats traveling by plane in the passenger cabin must be confined in a carrier that conforms to the airlines size restrictions. Due to changes in cabin air pressure, sedation for cats during air travel can be dangerous, and is not routinely recommended. Medications for motion sickness can be used. Transportation of cats in the airplane cargo hold is not recommended.

### Summer 2011

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### Save the Date!



### The 2011 Downtown Okemos Art Walk

will be held Saturday, June 11th from 10am-4pm. Stop by for a clinic tour, meet cats and kittens up for adoption, and check out cat-themed art, jewelry, and toys! We look forward to seeing you there!

### Heartworm Reminder

Have you started your cat's summer heartworm prevention yet?

Heartworm is a rare but serious infection in cats. Infection can cause chronic lung problems, such as asthma, requiring life-long medication. Other infected cats can experience sudden death as a result of worms breaking free of the heart and lodging in the lungs. *Once a*

Interstate health certificates are recommended for travel to another state. Those traveling to Canada may be required to show proof of a current rabies vaccination. International travel requirements vary depending on the country of destination, but it is recommended to start planning at least 6 months in advance. Requirements for the UK, Europe, Australia, and Hawaii tend to be the most stringent. Many airlines also require a health certificate, signed within 10 days of the scheduled flight. Check with your airline for details.

When traveling, it is a good idea to take a copy of your pet's current vaccines, as well as any relevant history. If you will be staying for more than a few weeks, establish your cat with a local veterinarian so that you can get help if an emergency arises.

*Announcing a new service for our clients...*

### **In-home behavioral consultations**

Do you have a problem cat who will simply not use the litter box? Issues with two or more cats who don't get along? A cat with particularly destructive scratching habits? Riverside Cat Hospital can help! We understand that behavior problems like these can be frustrating to deal with, and can adversely affect the relationship that you have with your pet.



We are very pleased to announce that we are now offering in-home feline behavioral consultations for our clients. A thorough knowledge of the home environment is a very important part of understanding why cats behave the way they do. An in-home visit allows us to interact with the cat in his home environment, as well as to observe the set-up of feeding and litter areas, play and resting areas, pet traffic-flow between these areas, and visibility and access to the outside. We can take the time to ask detailed questions based on what is observed, and help formulate a plan to resolve your cat's behavior problem.

Once we have determined that there are no medical problems contributing to your cat's behavior issue, we can arrange for your home visit. Consultations will be provided by Claudia Ottinger. After the in-home visit, Claudia will meet with Dr. Lewis to discuss the cat's problem and observations made in the home. A full report, including an explanation of the cat's behavior problem, and contributing or complicating factors observed in the home, as well as treatment recommendations and other resources, will be formulated and presented to the pet owner. Home consultations will include a telephone follow-up several weeks later to assess progress. Don't let your cat's behavior problem continue any longer! Call us today.



### **Ask Izzy**



*Dear Izzy,  
Now that summer has arrived, I like to go outside occasionally and nibble some grass. If my person sees me doing this, she gets mad and tries to make me stop! She says that grass is bad for me. Is that true?*

*Signed, Chloe*

*Dear Chloe,  
I, too, like my grass in the summertime. In fact, I have trained my people here to grow grass for me indoors in the winter! An occasional green snack is no problem, but if you're one of those kitties who will throw up if you eat too much, then just keep it to 1 or 2 blades of grass at a time. Your person will appreciate it.*

*Sincerely,*

*Izzy*

[Send Izzy your question](#) today!

### **The Last Word**

Welcome to summer at last! We have been very busy here at the clinic welcoming our boarders for Memorial Day weekend and into the summer, getting ready for the annual Downtown Okemos open house next weekend, and of course, taking care of patients.

With the warmer weather, we are seeing a few more bite wound infections as cats get out and about and run into "neighbor" cats! If your cat goes outside, be aware of this possibility and call us if any questions arise.

*cat becomes infected with heartworms, there is no safe treatment.*

Remember that heartworms are spread by mosquitoes, which can be found both indoors and outdoors. Heartworm prevention is easy to administer, and involves the application of a topical medication once monthly to the skin at the back of the neck.

Visit the [American Heartworm Society](#) for more information about feline heartworm disease.



### **Memoriam...**

*In honor of those pets that have died in the past 3 months...*

*Bella M.  
Emma S.  
Hannah A.  
Jack D.  
Vox M.  
Tops B.  
Hannah B.  
Magic H.  
Penny G.  
Tinkerbell H.  
Vinny S.  
Snubby G.*

### **Find us on Facebook!**

Riverside Cat Hospital |



*We hope that you find these newsletters informative and entertaining. However, if you do not wish to receive these quarterly mailings, simply click on the "unsubscribe" button at the top of this e-mail. We promise that we will never share your contact information with*

We hope you can all make it out to our Open House next weekend - we look forward to seeing you there! We value you as clients and thank you for your business!

Until next time,  
***Kerry Lewis, DVM***

Are happy with the service you receive at our clinic?

[Write a Review](#)  
and let us know how we're doing!

*anyone, and will only use your e-mail address to send you these quarterly newsletters, or to contact you about your pet.*

*As always, we welcome your feedback. If you have suggestions for how we can improve our newsletter, please call or e-mail us. We'd be happy to hear from you!*