



## Chanhassen Veterinary Clinic

### *Feline Heartworm, Intestinal Parasite and Flea Protection*

*Why protecting your cat (indoor or outdoor) is so important:*

- ***Heartworm Disease** is not just a canine disease. Heartworms affect cats differently than dogs, but the disease they cause is equally as serious. In cats it's called "Heartworm Associated Respiratory Disease".*
- *It only takes one mosquito to infect a cat. In one study, 28% of cat's diagnosed were **inside-only cats**.*
- ***Intestinal parasites** are a zoonotic disease (can be passed to humans). They can be dangerous to us, but especially to small children.*
- *Most times, you cannot see intestinal parasites with the naked eye. Your cat's stool may look perfectly normal.*
- ***Fleas** are not only a nuisance, but they can also be an intermediate host for tapeworms and other diseases*

*What can you do to protect your cat:*

- *Get a physical exam annually for veterinarian to assess health.*
- *Have a stool sample checked annually if not more often.*
- *Apply a monthly preventative (**Revolution or Heartgard/Frontline**) to protect your cat year around.*
- *Clean you cat's litter pans daily.*

*What are the sign to watch for:*

- ***Heartworm (Heartworm Associated Respiratory Disease):**Lethargy, Coughing, Difficulty Breathing, Weight Loss, Fainting, Vomiting/Diarrhea, Sudden Death*
- ***Intestinal Parasites:** Most times you will see no signs, but may cause diarrhea, vomiting or weight loss.*
- ***Fleas:** Itching, scratching, excessive grooming, black specks on haircoat, seeing live fleas.*