



Parasite Prevention

At Evergreen Veterinary Hospital we carry a variety of parasite preventives to prescribe based on our patients' needs.

Heartworm Prevention:

Heartgard Plus (*ivermectin/pyrantel*) for dogs: A flavored chewable that prevents heartworm disease and intestinal parasites roundworms and hookworms. For once-a-month treatment.

Sentinel (*milbemycin oxime*) for dogs: A chewable flavored tablet that prevents heartworm disease and controls intestinal parasites hookworms, roundworms, and whipworms. Sentinel also provides weak control of fleas, by preventing adult fleas from laying eggs. For once-a-month treatment.

Revolution (*selamectin*) for cats: A topical heartworm disease prevention that also controls intestinal parasites hookworms and roundworms. Revolution can also treat ear mites. For once-a-month treatment- recommended especially for indoor/outdoor cats.

Flea and Tick Prevention:

Frontline Gold (*fipronil/methoprene*) for dogs and cats: A topical product used to kill and control fleas and ticks. This product interrupts the flea life cycle by killing adult fleas and preventing all life stages of the flea from maturing (eggs, larvae and pupae). For once-a-month treatment.

Nexgard (*afoxolaner*) for dogs: A chewable tablet that kills adult fleas before they can lay eggs, as well as preventing flea and tick infestations. For once-a-month treatment.

More about Parasites

Please see "Parasites at a Glance" on the reverse page for more information about parasites common to dogs and cats. Courtesy of Dr. Karen Blakeley (All Pets Veterinary Clinic, Macomb, IL).

Parasites at a glance

Parasites can cause a variety of health problems for your pet—and even death. One of the biggest concerns is the potential for them to spread to humans. This handout lists common parasites in cats and dogs, the signs, detection, and whether they can spread to humans—these are known as zoonotic parasites.

Veterinarians divide parasites into two main categories—external (ectoparasites) and internal (endoparasites). Fleas, ticks, and mites are ectoparasites. Endoparasites, such as heartworms or tapeworms are often harder to detect but typically cause more severe disease. Here’s a look at both:

	Signs and complications	Zoonotic	Detection
<u>Ectoparasites</u>			
Fleas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Mild to severe itching, scratching, biting, and chewing > Flea saliva hypersensitivity or allergy and resulting skin problems > The transmission of tapeworms > Anemia and possible death in young or small animals 	No	Examination of the animal for adult fleas, flea dirt, or small black specks of dried flea feces. A blood test can detect a flea allergy.
Ticks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Mild local irritation to severe anemia > Transmission of other diseases to animals and humans—Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, and <i>Ehrlichia</i>, among others 	Yes	Examination of the animal
Mites and lice The three main types: sarcoptic mange, demodectic mange, and Cheyletiella	> Itching, hair loss, dandruff or crusty lesions, and bleeding or oozing skin	Some mites: Yes Lice: No	Examination of the animal and skin scrapings
<u>Endoparasites</u>			
Heartworms	> May not exhibit signs until late in the course of the disease	No	Blood test
Transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito	> Coughing, difficulty breathing, panting, exercise intolerance, decreased activity level, and sudden death		
Roundworms and hookworms	> Diarrhea, anemia, and loss of body condition	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Fecal examination > Observation of worms
Live in the gastrointestinal (GI) tract; transmitted through fecal-oral contact and from mother to offspring			
Tapeworms	> None to diarrhea, weight loss, and poor body condition	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Observation of tapeworm segments in freshly passed feces > Fecal examination
Live in the GI tract; transmitted from ingestion of fleas, rodents, and rabbits			

We prefer to prevent parasites, to save your pet the discomfort of parasite infestation and minimize your family’s risk.