



A flea bath will be immediately administered to eradicate any living fleas on your dog. This is not optional and done at the owner's expense of an additional \$15.00/dog.

Ticks have to be removed individually with hemostats. An additional charge, varying by time it takes to remove them, will be applied.

Fleas are most commonly noticed on a dog's abdomen, the base of the tail and the head. Common symptoms of fleas on dogs include:

- Droppings or "flea dirt" in a dog's coat (small dark "grains of sand")
- Flea eggs (tiny, white grains)
- Allergic dermatitis
- Excessive scratching, licking or biting at skin
- Hair loss
- Scabs and hot spots
- Pale gums
- Tapeworms

Causes of Fleas

- Fleas are easily brought in from the outdoors.
- Fleas thrive in warm, humid climates at temperatures of 65 to 80 degrees.
- Adult fleas spend most of their lives on the animal, laying eggs in the fur.
- These eggs drop out onto rugs, upholstery, bedding and furniture; the new adult fleas will, in turn, find their living host (either human or animal).

Flea Complications

- Fleas can consume 15 times their own body weight in blood, which can cause anemia or a significant amount of blood loss over time.
- This is especially problematic in young puppies or kittens, where an inadequate number of red blood cells can be life-threatening.
- Some pets have heightened sensitive to the saliva of fleas, which can cause an allergic reaction known as flea allergy dermatitis.

Ticks are parasites that feed on the blood of unlucky host animals, such as cats and dogs. Like mites and spiders, ticks are arachnids. Although their presence may not even be noticed by the host, ticks can transmit many diseases through their bite.

Tick Transmission

- Most species of ticks require blood meals from a host to survive.
- Ticks bury their head into a host's skin when they bite and then gorge themselves on blood.
- Ticks tend to be most active in late spring and summer and live in tall brush or grass, where they can attach to dogs and outdoor cats.
- Ticks can be transferred from pets coming into the household from outdoors.
- Ticks prefer to attach close to the head, neck, ears and feet, but can be found anywhere on your pet's body.
- Ticks are particularly prominent in warm climates and certain wooded areas of the Northeast.

Tick Complications

- Blood loss
- Anemia
- Tick paralysis
- Skin irritation or infection
- Lyme Disease (bacterial infection)
- Cytauxzoonosis (lethal infection)