



THE BARK BACK NEWS

"DOGS ARE NOT OUR WHOLE LIFE, BUT THEY MAKE OUR LIVES WHOLE." (R. CARAS)

APRIL 2017

HEARTWORM AWARENESS MONTH WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW COULD HURT YOUR DOG

Ahhh, the joys of spring! Warm temperatures, blooming flowers and trees and ... the ever-hungry mosquito! Which means a real threat of heartworm disease to your dog (as well as cats and ferrets!).



Think you can ignore it? If left untreated, it's fatal.

Heartworm disease is usually subtle and often missed because the parasitic, foot-long roundworms live unseen inside your dog's heart, lungs and their blood vessels. While heartworm primarily affects the heart and lungs, it can also harm the liver, kidneys, eyes and nervous system.

WAIT, IT GETS WORSE ...

If all that wasn't scary enough, there's one more thing you must know: **heartworms can live for 5-7 years** in dogs; and if your dog is left unprotected, they can be re-infected each season leading to an insurmountable health crisis.

SYMPTOMS: HEARTWORM DISEASE
(SEE "ONE MINUTE DOG TIP" ON RIGHT)

ANNUAL TESTING IS CRUCIAL

Testing for heartworm is crucial every year to catch possible infection early (**even** if your dog has been consistently protected). Dogs (seven months and older) should be tested before starting heartworm prevention. If prevention has lapsed - even for a month - or never been used, dogs need to be **re-tested after six months** before restarting medication. Why? It can take more than six months for a dog to test positive after being bitten by an infected mosquito. This is because any **heartworms must be at least 7 months old** before they can be detected.

SPRINGTIME MEANS TICKS TOO!
(SEE INFOGRAPHIC ON REVERSE)



HEARTWORM TREATMENT

Heartworm treatment has come a long way and most dogs can now be successfully treated.

Treatment includes:

- ♥ Re-confirming the diagnosis of heartworms
- ♥ Restricting all exercise
- ♥ Stabilizing the dog's health & disease
- ♥ Administering the Treatment Protocol
- ♥ Retesting and Prevention

(Sources: PetHealthNetwork.com, HeartwormSociety.org and CAPCVET.org (Companion Animal Parasite Council))



THE ONE MINUTE DOG TIP SYMPTOMS: HEARTWORM DISEASE

Below are the typical symptoms of heartworm disease. However, by the time these symptoms become apparent, the disease may already be extensive. If your dog exhibits any of the following symptoms, get to your vet as soon as possible for a proper diagnosis.

Initial Symptoms

- ♥ Lethargy and Fatigue
- ♥ Coughing
- ♥ Weight Loss
- ♥ Lack of Appetite
- ♥ Intolerance of even regular exercise

Advanced Symptoms (Requiring Surgical Intervention)

- ♥ Swollen Belly
- ♥ Labored Breathing
- ♥ Pale Gums
- ♥ Dark Bloody or Coffee-Colored Urine

(Source: HeartwormSociety.org)



APRIL SHOWERS
BRING FORTH
MAY FLOWERS.

(PROVERB)



DOG DENTAL TARTAR REMOVAL SPRAY

It's only natural to order now at Bark5.com!



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AT A GLANCE: READY FOR TICK SEASON? (POST ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR AS A HANDY REMINDER)



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO PROTECT YOUR DOG

5 PLACES TO FIND TICKS ON YOUR DOG

Ticks **love** dark, warm and moist areas.

- Ears, Neck and Head
- Eyelids (Be sure it's not a skin tag first)
- In the Groin Area
- Between the Toes
- Under Clothes, Collars, Harnesses

"WHO'S WHO" IN THE TICK WORLD + THE K9 DISEASE(S) THEY CAUSE

 <p>Deer Tick <i>Anaplasmosis (Dog Fever or Dog Tick Fever)</i> <i>Borreliosis (Lyme Disease)</i></p>  <p>Western Black-Legged Tick <i>Anaplasmosis (Dog Fever or Dog Tick Fever)</i></p>  <p>Gulf Coast Tick <i>American Canine Hepatozoonosis (through ingestion by the dog)</i></p>	 <p>Lone Star Tick <i>Ehrlichiosis (one of the most common and dangerous diseases)</i></p>  <p>Brown Dog Tick</p>  <p>American Dog Tick <i>Rickettsia Rickettsii (Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (RMSF) or Blue Disease)</i></p>
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Sources: PetMD.com (2017 Flea & Tick Survival Guide), PetCareRx.com, CanLyme.com (Canadian Lyme Disease Foundation)

COOL STUFF FOR THE DOG LOVER K9 DENTAL CARE ... NATURALLY

Finding a truly natural, yet effective, K9 dental product with human-grade ingredients (and **alcohol-free**) for a reasonable price has been an almost impossible challenge, until now.



The Bark5 Dental Spray is a "Low Risk" Canada Health Vet Product (NN.D9Q9) providing peace-of-mind to owners that this product **safely** maintains healthy K9 oral hygiene. This is accomplished with three powerful and **natural** ingredients known to provide effective dental care and healing, including:

Bee Propolis: Documented as a healing agent and an effective, natural herbal antibiotic to fight infections (the cause behind inflamed gums and loose teeth).

Grapefruit Seed Extract: Destroys the cell membranes of only bad bacteria and fungi rendering them inactive, unable to replicate or survive. Does not harm the healthy and beneficial gut flora (unlike pharmaceutical antibiotics).

Grapeseed Extract: Anti-inflammatory; antioxidant and anti-allergen; all highly effective properties for canine dental care and gingivitis.

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for new customers (see coupon on reverse).



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(POWERED BY COLD NOSES NEWS. INTERESTED IN YOUR OWN READY-TO-USE NEWSLETTER FEATURING YOUR K9 BUSINESS? VISIT COLDNOSESNEWS.COM.)

CANINE FIRST AID BASICS TOP 3 BENEFITS OF RAW HONEY



Honey has been used throughout history because of its healthy properties and benefits.

These benefits also extend to our 4-legged canine friends. Keep reading to learn how **raw** honey can help your K9 friend.

Benefit #1

Particles in raw honey help reduce seasonal allergies in dogs by boosting their immunity.

Benefit #2

Raw honey has both anti-bacterial and anti-microbial properties making it an effective healing agent for cuts, injuries, burns, infections and wounds.

Benefit #3

Raw honey can also be used internally for issues like kennel cough, digestive issues and stomach ulcers.

Do not give honey to puppies under one year old.

Also, if your dog is overweight or diabetic, check with your vet first before giving honey.

(Sources: DogsNaturallyMagazine.com & Whole-Dog-Journal.com)



HONEY & CINNAMON TREATS

A healthy, simple dog treat recipe with both honey and cinnamon. This spice also has wonderful benefits for our dogs including:

- ♥ Anti-inflammatory properties;
- ♥ The ability to slow or stop bacteria growth;
- ♥ The regulation of a dog's blood sugar; and
- ♥ Fighting the fungus behind yeast infections.

Plus, it smells paw-sitively awesome!

HONEY & CINNAMON TREATS

- 1-1/2 cup whole wheat flour
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 2 tablespoons honey

Preheat oven to 350° F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or a silicone baking mat.

Mix all ingredients in a large bowl until well combined.

Knead dough into a ball and roll onto a floured surface, 1/4 inch thick. Cut into squares or your favorite shapes with a cookie cutter.

Bake for approximately 15 minutes until browned around the edges. Cool and store in the refrigerator.

(Source: DoggYDessertChef.com)