



Our Business Hours:

Monday – Friday
8 am—5 pm

Surgeries performed on
Tuesday and Thursday

Dental cleanings can be
scheduled daily

Call us at
256-435-8387

We want your pet to
vacation with us!!! We
offer small and large pet
boarding for dogs and cats.

*For a pet emergency after
business hours,
please call*

256-236-8387



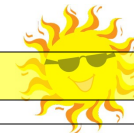
Can my pet get the flu???

We've all heard of the Bird Flu and the Swine flu. But there is a new flu that is in the United States. It's called Canine Influenza, or H3N2. Canine Influenza is an actual virus and has been showing up in recent news.

The canine influenza virus has been reported in the US since March, 2015. However, we have not seen any local outbreaks. But, that doesn't mean we shouldn't be alarmed. Our pets are at risk, and the virus is extremely contagious.

The signs and symptoms of this virus can range from a slight fever to complete lethargy of the pet. If you notice your dog coughing, hacking, or having trouble breathing, call your veterinarian immediately. If you decide to go ahead and take your pet to the vet, please, and I repeat PLEASE, do not take your dog into the office. Instead, check in at the desk and let the veterinarian or his staff member come to your car to examine your pet. This is a highly contagious virus.

Again, while the canine influenza virus has not been diagnosed in our area, if you suspect your dog has the virus, or is exhibiting symptoms, please contact your vet's office immediately.



BEAT the HEAT

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It's starting out to be a typical Alabama summer. The heat is extreme. While we have the luxury of being indoors in a temperature-controlled environment, some pets are struggling to stay cool outdoors.

If you can bring your pet inside, please do. When your pet is outside, please be sure he has fresh cool water and a shaded area.

Also, when walking your pet, keep in mind that the asphalt is about 35 degrees hotter than the air temperature. That can cause burns on tender paws.

Pets can suffer from heat stroke, just like us.

Signs to look out for include:

- * Excessive panting
- * Excessive thirst
- * Glazed eyes
- * Increased salivation
- * Dry pale/gray gums
- * Rapid pulse
- * Weakness and or staggering
- * Vomiting
- * Collapse

If you suspect heat stroke, call your vet
IMMEDIATELY!!

1519 Pelham Road South

Phone: 256-435-8387

Fax: 256-435-4868

E-mail: clantonah@gmail.com



Peanut butter rules! Kibble drools.

Does your pet love peanut butter?

Do you get joy out of watching your pet lick and lick after getting a spoonful of peanut butter?

Some of us use peanut butter to give pills to our pets. While a little is ok, some peanut butter companies are now using Xylitol rather than sugar in their products. Xylitol is an artificial sweetener which has been revealed to be harmful, if not deadly, to dogs. Xylitol is commonly used in sugar-free chewing gum, but is now starting to show up in other products. Be sure to check your peanut butter to assure it is Xylitol-free and you can continue to enjoy your dog's licking his face in enjoyment!!!

If you need a cure for giving your pet a pill, consider Pill Pockets, a tasty and meaty (and safe) way to administer meds.



Pesky Summer Pests



Fleas are a year-round problem in our area, but most pet parents really notice fleas on their pets during the hot and sticky summer months. Fleas feast on juicy pets—don't let your fur-baby become the main course. If you see fleas on your pet, treat him to a tasty Capstar. The Capstar will kill the fleas almost immediately, but only lasts 24 hours. Once you've given the Capstar, give your pet a good cleansing bath to get the fleas, dirt, and larvae off of their skin and fur. While still working in the 24-hour window of the Capstar, treat your pet with the flea treatment recommended by your veterinarian. Such products include Frontline and Seresto. Wash your pet's bedding and toys. In extreme cases, you may need to treat your home. Your vet staff can recommend products to eradicate the problem.

Be free from fleas!!!!

Rabies—yes rabies is still a threat to our pets. Recently, in surrounding counties, raccoons and dogs have been recovered from attacks and tested positive for the disease.

If you see an unknown animal, especially wildlife, that seems to be acting strange, do not approach them. Affected animals may also act tame and friendly. Please be sure your children don't take in any wild critters.

Are your pets' vaccinations up to date? Vaccinate today!!

Snakes—snakes are in abundance this summer, given the unusually wet spring we encountered. While many snakes are not poisonous, a small percent are. There are 50 different species in our state: do you know how to tell the difference in an emergency? This writer doesn't!!!

Try to make your home unattractive to snakes. Clean out underbrush and leaf litter around your home. Mow down the tall grass. Snakes also like to hang out in wood piles.



If you feel your pet has wrangled with a snake, call your veterinarian's office immediately!!

PROTECT YOUR PET from fleas, ticks, and heartworms



We carry these products and many others. Ask your veterinary team member which products is best for your pet.

