

September 1st,  
2018

Volume 1, Issue 1



**Crest Hill**  
ANIMAL HOSPITAL

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**Important Dates:**

October is Dental Month!

If your pet is current on their yearly exam, vaccines, and heartworm test, you will receive a \$40.00 discount in October on a dental procedure!



## September Hospital News

### September Spay/Neuter Month in Will County

Will County residents who have their pets spayed or neutered at participating veterinary offices in September can receive a \$40 county-sponsored discount. The discount applies for up to two animals per household and is exclusively for pet owners who live in Will County. More than 15,000 pets have been treated since the program originated in 2007.

“This continued partnership between our Animal Control department and the many veterinarians in Will County is key to protecting the health of our residents’ pets,” said Will County executive Larry Walsh. “This is an important service I encourage all eligible residents to utilize.”

To be eligible for the \$40 discount on a pet’s spay or neuter::

- Pet Owner’s must show proof of residency in Will County.
- Pets must be registered with Will County Animal Control and reside with the owner
- Proof of current rabies vaccine and Will County registration tag must be provided on the day of surgery
- Rabies vaccination can be administered on the day of surgery, as well as purchasing the registration tag.
- Surgery must take place between, September 1st and September 30th to qualify.

### Employee Pet Spotlight

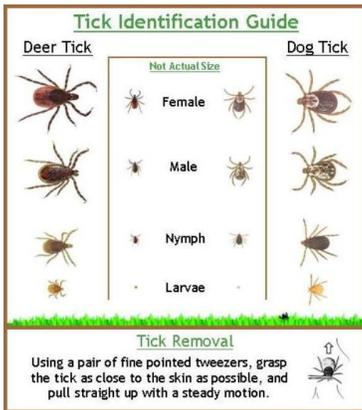
Featured this month is veterinary nurse, Shannon’s Australian Shepherd named Ripken. He is 8 months old and pictured after his neuter procedure at CHAH. Ripken enjoys attending his human brother’s baseball games, going to obedience class, and visiting the dog park. Shannon has high hopes that he will learn agility and compete.



Important Website links:

- [Crest Hill Animal Hospital](#)
- [Will County](#)
- [Pet Loss Helpline](#)
- [Joliet Township Animal Control](#)

# Parasite Prevention



Keep these nasty pests off your pets!!

Parasite prevention is very important not only for your pet, but also for you and your family. In addition to making your pet ill, certain parasites can be passed from your pet to you and your children. A brief temperature warm up during winter can give

fleas and ticks a chance to emerge and infest your pet. These pests can tolerate temperatures above 37 degrees. Deer ticks, the most common species to infest dogs are most active from October through February. Ticks can transmit a large number of diseases including Ehrlichiosis, Lyme Dis-

ease, and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. Regardless of the weather, many of these pests can survive in your home on your carpeting and furniture. The American Heartworm Society recommends year round protection for fleas, ticks, and heartworms.

# What's Lurking Below the Gum line?

The adult dog has 42 teeth, while the cat has 30 teeth. They are very important to protect throughout it's lifetime. Dental disease prevention is essential for many crucial reasons. Poor dental health care can lead to many debilitating diseases. Conditions such as heart failure, liver, and kidney failure can arise just from swallowing the contaminated bacteria in their own mouths. Also, root exposure, abscesses, fractures, and loose or impacted teeth can be extremely painful. Even young dogs or cats can have abnormalities such as retained baby teeth, missing teeth, or malocclusion (abnormal bite). At CHAH, we perform oral examinations at every office visit. Your veterinarian will let you know if an anesthetic dental procedure is warranted, and address any concerns you may have.

There are a variety of things you can do at home to keep your pets mouth healthy. Simply, lifting your pets lip on a regular basis to check for tooth discoloration, foul odor, chipped teeth, red or swollen gums, and tarter build up is helpful. Daily brushing with a pet tooth brush kit, dental chews, oral sprays, and safe chew toys are all beneficial. Ask your technician for a free sample of Oravet chews next time you visit to get your pet on a lifetime of healthy oral care, or schedule your pet for a dental cleaning.



*"Smiling Pretty!"*

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