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**Crest Hill**  
ANIMAL HOSPITAL



## Hugs For Hounds Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 20th, 2019,  
at 11:00 am.

Shorewood HUGS and the Forest Preserve of Will County are holding a doggie Easter egg Hunt at Hammel Woods in Shorewood. There is a \$5-7 fee to enter and also raffle tickets for purchase. All proceeds will benefit Jullo, the Forest Preserve Police Department's K9 officer. Onsite registration begins at 10:00am. Dogs must be on a leash and accompanied at all times. There will be contests for biggest/smallest dog, best Easter outfit, Owner look alike, and dog that traveled the farthest. Raffle tickets will be \$1 or 6 for \$5.

### Important Links:

[www.wildlifecenter.org](http://www.wildlifecenter.org)

[www.petpoisonhelpline.com](http://www.petpoisonhelpline.com)

[www.shorewoodhugs.org/hugs-for-hounds-doggie-easter-egg-hunt](http://www.shorewoodhugs.org/hugs-for-hounds-doggie-easter-egg-hunt)

## April Newsletter

### *Dangers of Easter Lilies to your Cats*

A popular plant often purchased or gifted around Easter time is the Lily. These plants are non toxic to most species, but can be potentially life threatening in cats. Many types of lilies are toxic to cats including the Easter, Stargazer, Asiatic, Tiger, and Daylily, among others. Every part of the plant is toxic, the leaves, petal, pollen, even the water is dangerous if they drink out of the vase containing this flower. Dogs can be affected as well if large amounts of the plant have been ingested, but cats are particularly sensitive.



Signs from ingestion may present as vomiting, lethargy, diarrhea, painful abdomen, seizures, or even death. It is important to note that very little of the plant is toxic to cats. Immediate treatment is warranted. Your vet may decide to give medications to absorb the toxins. IV fluids will be essential to flush the kidneys and keep your kitty from going into kidney failure.

### Employee Pet Spotlight



CHAH is happy to introduce our new Intern, JJC vet tech student, Isabella to our hospital. She is completing her 8 week internship with us before she graduates this May from the program. Her pup, Enza, a 4 year old German Shepherd is pictured above.

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**Just say “No” to the Easter Bunny This Year**

This Easter we urge you not to fall into the temptation of buying a real live Easter bunny for your family. Rabbits, although soft and extremely cute, are the 3rd most abandoned and euthanized pet in the U.S. Shelters are bombarded by rabbits several months after Easter every year. Most people believe that they only live 2-3 years, when in fact, they can live up to 12 years. Caging requirements should be at least 4 by 4 feet minimum, with at least 4 hours of exercise outside of the cage daily. They do NOT do well in confined spaces. This also means “bunny proofing” your home from cords they may be apt to chew on. Rabbits require routine check ups along with a spay or neuter procedure to prevent aggressiveness, urine spraying, and health issues. Incidentally, rabbits are high maintenance pets. Please note, domestic rabbits CANNOT fend for itself in the wild. If you decide to set them free in a forest preserve , you are giving them a death sentence.

Crest Hill Animal Hospital  
 1807 Plainfield Rd.  
 Crest Hill, IL 60403  
 815-729-1155

## Easter Activities With Your Dog

One of the easiest way to have Easter fun with your dog is to take them on an Easter egg hunt! These eggs are easy to find in any dollar store during the Easter season. Dogs see mostly in shades of yellow and blue, so consider using these eggs first. Introduce your dog to the egg , open it, and show them the treat inside. Safety first, though. Make sure they will not eat the plastic or whole egg. Using one of your dog’s strongest senses makes this a great game for you both. Fill your eggs with tasty treats , peanut butter, or cheese, and see their “sniffer” in action! Sprinkle the eggs around your floor or the yard. He may need help finding their first egg, but should ,hopefully, catch on quickly. Make sure if you have multiple dogs that they will play nicely, or else give each dog his own separate hunt. Also account for all the eggs when you are done to avoid accidental ingestion of the plastic material later on. This game is a rewarding experience that helps you bond with your dog, so remember to make it a positive, fun game.

### I Found a Baby Rabbit ...

**Do any of the following apply to the rabbit?**

- It is bleeding, has an open wound, or has a broken bone.
- It's been in a cat's or dog's mouth.
- It's covered in fly eggs [these look like small grains of rice].
- It's cold, wet, or crying nonstop.

**YES** → Take the rabbit to a wildlife rehabilitator or veterinarian.

**NO** → Is the rabbit fully furred with its eyes opened?

**NO** → Locate the nest and put the rabbit back. You will not see a lot of activity at the nest; mother rabbits stay away to avoid leading predators to their young. To check for nest activity, lay four pieces of string in a tic-tac-toe pattern over the nest. Leave the area and check back in 12 hours. If the mother rabbit has returned, the strings will be out of place. If the strings are undisturbed, and the young rabbits have missed more than two feedings (early morning and dusk), the rabbits should be taken to a permitted rehabilitator.

**YES** → If the rabbit is larger than a softball and weighs more than 4 ounces or 100 grams, leave it alone! It is on its own and does not need human intervention.

**Cottontail Facts:**

- Nest March - September
- Average Litter: 4-5 babies
- Litters per season: 3-4
- Disperse at 15-20 days old

Nests are found in shallow depressions on the ground (cottontails do not burrow), covered with soft grasses and lined with tufts of the mother rabbit's fur.

Mother rabbits are very secretive so they don't draw attention to their nests; it is very rare that you will see a mother rabbit coming and going.

Mom feeds her young only two times a day: at dusk and dawn.

Rabbits are a sensitive and high-stress species. Never chase a rabbit to capture it, and handle it as little as possible. Do not give food or water to injured or orphaned rabbits; they have very sensitive stomachs.

**A Word about Mowing:**

Do not attempt to mow within 10 feet of a rabbit's nest if there are babies present. Protect a nest during mowing by placing a plastic lattice laundry basket upside down over the nest. Remove after mowing.

For more information about what to do if you find a baby rabbit, visit [www.wildlifecenter.org/baby-rabbit](http://www.wildlifecenter.org/baby-rabbit)

Raising a wild animal in captivity is illegal unless you have a state permit.