



# Arbor Animal News

A Quarterly publication from Arbor Animal Clinic

January 15, 2011



## February is Dental Month

Dental disease continues to be the number one health problem our dogs and cats face. Our clinic sees many stages of dental disease. We often refer to the procedure as “a dental” but this can be anything from an annual dental prophylaxis which is just a teeth cleaning and polishing to prevent further problems all the way to patients who have to have many teeth removed due to advanced periodontal disease. This may involve extensive oral surgery and expense. Some dogs (usually large breeds) never have significant dental disease their whole lives. However, some dogs (usually smaller breeds), and many cats develop plaque and gingivitis by age two or three that will lead to periodontal disease and tooth loss if not treated. Cats can also develop a unique tooth disease, FORL, or Feline Osteoclastic Resorptive Lesions, which are cavity-like lesions which are very painful and ultimately lead to tooth loss. Unfortunately, we also see the consequences of untreated dental disease which often presents as chronic bacterial infections of the heart valves, kidneys, or liver. This can be fatal and is preventable with routine dental exams and treatment as needed.

We are committed to keeping our patients healthy by including an oral exam with each pet’s annual exam. Often a simple cleaning is recommended, however some patients will need a cleaning followed by X-Rays to see if tooth root loss or abscess warrants more extensive work or tooth extractions. Our doctors and technicians are very proficient in this important area of vet medicine and we are proud to offer the discount savings on the reverse of this newsletter to honor February which is **National Dental Month**.



## Happy New Year !

Each new year brings innovations and changes that are welcomed in our practice. Last year saw a major renovation of our facility, equipment, and computer system. This year we begin with a few new and exciting things:



- 1) Our **Facebook** page is now very active and we really enjoy interacting with our clients and “Friends” on Facebook.
- 2) **Pet Portal**—one of the best things we have done, is now available to each of our clients. It is called Pet Portal. It is a private webpage just for your pet. All you do is call us and give us your email address or go to our website and click on the Pet Portal icon (shown below) and follow the prompts. By using your pet’s Pet Portal you can view your pet’s information, request appointments, order prescription refills, view vaccination history, request boarding reservations, view upcoming appointments, and even post photos of your pets. There is a section to view your pet’s medications, have email alerts sent to you, and there are numerous articles on veterinary problems in dogs and cats. You have got to try it, it is great. I look up my dogs’ due dates from home now and get alerts for their monthly heartworm medications. It’s great!



## Doctor's Corner

### Annual Vaccination

#### Recommendations for Dogs

Our doctors have decided to include the vaccinations for Leptospirosis and Kennel Cough in our “core” vaccinations for all dogs. Leptospirosis has become a serious threat to all dogs in the last several years and we want to protect each and every dog from this awful disease which is often life-threatening. Our Kennel Cough (or Bordetella) protection program will be annual and not require the every six month administration of the intranasal vaccine which we presently require for boarding animals. These two changes follow thorough investigation and consideration by our doctors and will serve to update and maximize the prevention of infectious and contagious diseases in our canine patients. Please feel free to ask our doctors and technicians about these diseases and their prevention. They will be happy to fill you in on these important changes!

#### Did You Know?

→ That you can receive your pet’s reminders and newsletters by email? Just give us your email address and let us know if this is your preferred way to receive your pet’s reminders and this newsletter electronically.

→ That in Texas, both cats and dogs should stay on monthly prevention for Heartworms, fleas, and intestinal parasites?

#### Watch our Vets on TV

Have you seen our vets on TV??? We are now on KEYE (CBS) *We Are Austin Live* between 4 and 5 pm every third Friday of each month to do a “Pet Stop” segment talking about pet health issues. If you have missed us and want to see past segments—they are **now on our website** as links on the **Informational Videos**



**Arbor Animal Clinic**

5114 Balcones Woods Drive #312  
Austin, TX 78759

***Do you know someone who needs a great vet?***

Just fill in your name on the line and give to a friend. They will receive \$10 off of their first visit, and you will receive a coupon for the same amount, just for referring them! Thank you for referring!

 <p>_____</p> <p>(your name here)</p> <p>would like you to enjoy</p> <p><b>\$10.00 off your first visit to</b></p> <p><b>Arbor Animal Clinic.</b></p> <p>Call 794-1040 for an appointment</p>	 <p>_____</p> <p>(your name here)</p> <p>would like you to enjoy</p> <p><b>\$10.00 off your first visit to</b></p> <p><b>Arbor Animal Clinic.</b></p> <p>Call 794-1040 for an appointment</p>
--	---

**Please call 794-1040  
to schedule your appointment!**

# Savings Specials

**20% OFF**  
**All Vaccinations**  
**every**  
**Wednesday**  
**& Thursday**

**\*\*\*\*Dental Month Special\*\*\*\***  
**20% discount on dental cleanings**  
**Call for your pet's appointment!**  
**A \$ 53.02 savings**  
**Offered on a "first come" basis only.**



Vaccine Offers  
good through  
April 15, 2011 only