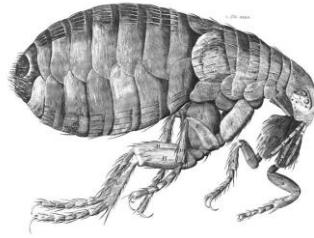


Fircrest Veterinary Hospital, LLC



Flea Management:

1. Clean your environment. Treat carpets with an anti-flea product that penetrates deep down into the carpet fibers where the flea eggs are. Remove any filter from the vacuum cleaner prior to vacuuming as it can collect flea eggs which can hatch from vibrations the next time you use your vacuum cleaner then vacuum carpets very well. Be sure to wipe out or wash the canister because flea eggs are sticky! Put an over the counter flea collar in vacuum canister/ bag to kill any flea eggs that can remain inside. Empty out vacuum canister into outside trash or throw away vacuum bag outside immediately after vacuuming because flea eggs will hatch out of vacuum and re-infest home. Borax can be used in the washing machine with bedding or blankets.
2. We recommend topical or oral flea prevention medication once monthly, year round even if pet is strictly indoors. It doesn't get cold enough in this area to kill the fleas in the grass. If your pet is current on a flea prevention be sure that you are applying the topical correctly or giving the entire oral medication and that it is the correct weight range for your pet. If everything is correct try a new/different flea prevention, whether that be brand or type of administration. ****Never use topical dog flea treatment on a cat because it can kill them. Never use a larger dose and split it between pets (Ex. Using a 10-24lb chew for two 5lb dogs). We do not recommend using Hartz or Sergeant's brand topical flea prevention because we have seen strong negative skin reactions and because of its inefficacy, we do not recommend flea collars because they only treat for fleas locally around the neck and can cause irritation to the skin.****

3. If fleas persist, we recommend Capstar (oral flea medication), used once in conjunction with the above treatments. This product can be purchased at PetSmart. It will kill all fleas on pet but will only last 24 hours.
4. If fleas persist further, call in an exterminator to have your home and yard treated. Flea Busters is the only company that guarantees your home will be flea free for 1 year. For more information call **800-998-3532** or go to fleabusters.com
5. To check if your pet has fleas at home use a metal toothed flea/lice comb (plastic combs teeth can break and cause abrasions on the skin) and comb from the mid back down to the tail holding a piece of paper at the tail to catch any debris that may be combed out. Place any debris found onto a counter and use a wet paper towel to wipe it up. Wait 1-5 minutes and if debris begins to bleed or appear blood red, that is evidence of fleas. A fleas' diet consists of blood, so their feces is digested blood. When dehydrated blood is rehydrated, it bleeds. If the debris does not bleed then it is either dirt or dander.