# Heartworms, Parasites, Fleas, Ticks....OH MY! How to Protect your Cat from Parasites

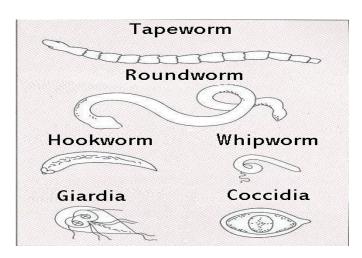


### **Heartworms**

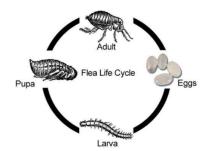
- Heartworms are spread by mosquitoes meaning if you are swatting or getting bit, your cat is at risk as well
- Heartworms are found in all 50 states Florida has the unfortunate risk of not having a cold winter, which means they exist year round
- Heartworm disease unfortunately cannot be treated in cats and the most common symptom is sudden death
- Prevention is the most easy and affordable way to keep your pet safe!

## **Intestinal Parasites**

- Intestinal parasites can cause all kind of symptoms in your pets such as malnutrition, vomiting, diarrhea, weight loss, scooting, distended abdomen and anemia
- They can be transmitted from infected fecal matter, soil, water, or even from ingesting an infected flea
- Some of these intestinal parasites, like hookworms, roundworms, giardia and tapeworms, are even zoonotic, which means you and your family are at risk!
- Intestinal parasites are treatable, but keeping them on prevention is much easier.



#### **Fleas**



- Fleas are annoying little pests that live everywhere
- They are found on stray pets, wildlife and neighborhood pets not on prevention
- They are easily shared between pets
- Fleas can cause itching, irritation, allergic reactions. They can pass tapeworms or, in severe infections, make your pet anemic
- Fleas can be found in clean homes and jump to new locations as much as 2 feet
- One flea can lay anywhere from 40-50 eggs per day and they live up to 100 days
- Treating your pet is not the only step to getting rid of fleas once they are in your home. You also will have to treat your house to kill all life stages
- Flea bites on a human can cause dermatitis, allergic reactions or even transmit some diseases.

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### **Ticks**

- Ticks can be found in long grass or bushes
- While the tick itself only causes mild irritation, they do pass serious diseases to pets and humans such as Lyme disease, Anaplasmosis, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Ehrlichiosis and Tick Paralysis
- Ticks like to hide in or around ears, in the groin area, between the toes and underneath the collar, but your pet's whole body should be checked frequently
- They can stay attached for more than 3 days
- Year round tick prevention is the safest thing for your pet to keep them protected





### **Revolution Plus**

- Revolution Plus is a monthly topical preventative used to prevent heartworms, fleas, ticks and intestinal parasites
- Initially, we need to monitor your kitten's weight regularly as they grow to make sure each month's prevention is the right dose





### **Bravecto/Bravecto Plus**

- There are two types of Bravecto for our feline friends
  - Bravecto Topical is a topical solution used for flea and tick prevention that is administered every 3 months
  - Bravecto Plus Topical is a topical solution used for heartworms, fleas, ticks and intestinal parasite prevention that is administered every 2 months
- Both are great products for when your kitten is older if you want a prevention that lasts a bit longer than a month

