

COUNTRYSIDE'S PAWPRINT PRESS

Countryside Animal Hospital—970-223-7789—vet@countrysidevet.com

3820 S. Timberline Road, Fort Collins, CO 80525

Fall 2019

AUTUMN ALLERGIES



As summer wraps up and fall begins, our furry companions can still be affected by environmental allergens. As the seasons change, so do the allergies. Dying plants, wind, moisture and cooler temperatures stir up environmental irritants. Pollen, dust, leaves and grass are common sources of allergies in the fall.

Allergic symptoms which are cyclical and repeatedly surface at the same time each year are referred to as **inhalant allergies**. Signs of inhalant allergies include:

- **Scratching**
- **Reddened skin/ rash on stomach and paws**
- **Excessive paw licking**
- **Hair loss**
- **Ear infections**

In addition, fall brings mold which can affect pets even if they don't normally have allergies. Mold can grow rapidly in cold, dark places in your home and can be toxic. Deep cleaning is always recommended during seasonal changes. It is important to fix any leaks or cracks that allow moisture into your house. Bathroom and ceiling fans are helpful in reducing moisture in the air. Regularly cleaning your dog's bed and other belongings as they get wet is strongly advised. Adding a little bleach to the wash can also help kill any bacteria and mold.

If you suspect your pet has allergies, we recommend an exam with your veterinarian to discuss the best course of treatment. Allergies can lead to secondary bacterial or yeast infections if left untreated. Relieving the symptoms of persistently itchy skin can help alleviate the effects of scratching.

If your pet is experiencing any of these type of symptoms, you can always ask your veterinarian for advice on treatment. There are multiple medications, bathing products and fish oil supplements available to help provide your furry companion with some relief.



Don't forget...it's Countryside CALENDAR time!!
Please email pictures of your adorable critters to
calendar@countrysidevet.com by November 1st

Halloween Hazards

Halloween is a super fun time of year, but also a very confusing time for our four-legged friends. Costumes, strangers, loud noises, lights, decorations and candy are just several potential Halloween hazards for animals. Here are some safety tips to help your family have a safe and happy holiday together:



- It's wise to keep all of your cats, dogs and other pets inside the house lessening the confusion and fright that the night's activities can cause. Black cats are especially vulnerable to harm during Halloween.
- Make sure guests respect your pet's boundaries.



- Keep your pets visible since it could be easy for them to slip out the front door. Keeping their ID tags on and up-to-date is always a good idea, along with reflective harnesses or collars if they go outside.

- Set up a safe, quiet spot for your pets during the festivities. Food, water and potty breaks/ access to a litterbox are essential.
- Make sure party food and treats are out of reach, collecting any candy wrappers and food packaging along the way. Chocolate, as always, is a big NO for animals!!
- Dog gates allow your sociable pet to stay out of the mix, but still see people and interact. Even the most sociable pet may be on edge during Halloween festivities.



BEWARE!!!

The following festive decorations and foods can be quite *frightening* for our furry companions and are best kept out of reach:

Candy
Chocolate
Spiderwebs
Edible decorations
Ornamental corncobs
Balloons
Carved pumpkins
Lit candles
Glowsticks
Electrical cords
Battery-powered decorations
Light displays
Sound and fog machines

Rescue Community:

Spotlight on The Animal Debt Project

The Animal Debt Project (ADP) is a no-kill, non-profit organization located in Wellington, CO. Edie Messick (owner/CEO) and Jeff Meyers moved from California to their current location. They now have the space and infrastructure to customize a dog's paradise.

Social media networking is also a great way to help! There are always projects around the property and volunteers can assist with adoption events. Public adoption events are held on weekends at the Fort Collins Petco and the Tractor Supply, in addition to Bomgaars in Wellington. Private adoptions are offered on-site by appointment.

There is no age limit to volunteer, but children under 16 must be supervised by a parent/guardian/staff member. Orientation is the 2nd and 4th Saturday of every month. From 11 AM-4 PM, the public can schedule or request time slots that fit their needs. ADP is certified with PACFA (Pet Animal Care Facilities Act) and offers community service hours as well. There is always interest in welcoming new volunteers into the ADP family!

The newest project is the Neighborhood Animal Watch of Northern Colorado (NAW of NoCo), with the goal of decreasing the amount of animals sent to kill-shelters or facilities where an already anxiety-ridden person or family is looking for their pet. As this program gets underway, there will be more details regarding ways you can get involved.

For a volunteer application or for more information about The Animal Debt Project, please contact:

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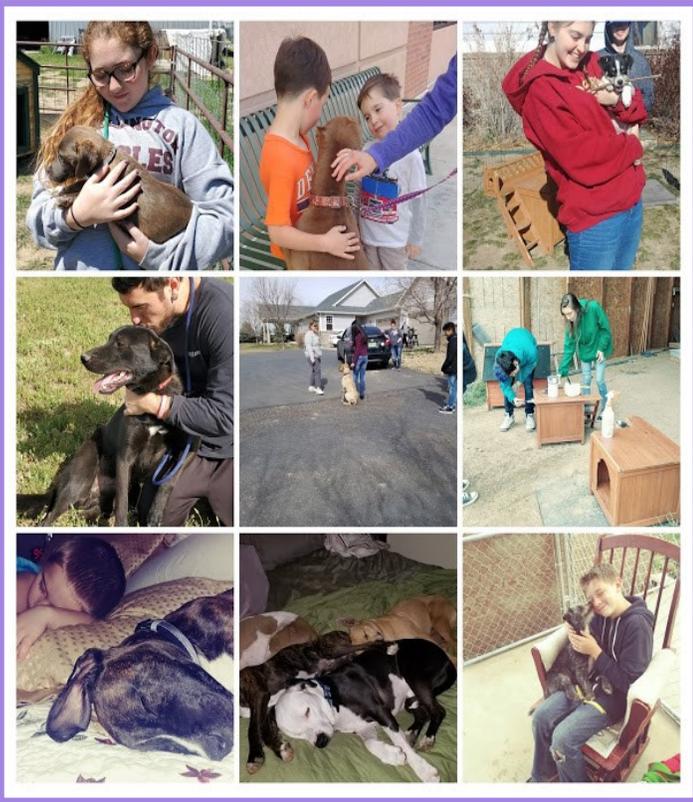
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ADP rescues dogs at a local and national level, as well as from Mexico. They have rescued over 1,300 dogs since 2015! Dogs come to the rescue for various reasons, including euthanization lists, hoarding situations, natural disasters, abusive backgrounds, as well as owner surrenders.

In order to get these dogs into amazing homes, ADP helps with their transport alongside other volunteer and paid transport organizations. The transport side involves an effort that is just short of a miracle. Other no-kill rescues, individual volunteers and veterinary clinics help prepare health certificates, fundraise and transport these well-deserving creatures to better conditions, with the goal of finding their forever homes.

The Animal Debt Project also has an amazing trainer, Susan S. Miley, who has studied under Cesar Milan. Her techniques have helped rehabilitate dogs who were not candidates for adoption. ADP's physical therapist, Tammy Inglehart, assists in craniofacial and behavioral disorders.

ADP also offers various opportunities for volunteers. The volunteer program was started in 2017 and has now expanded into a wonderful group of people who come from different backgrounds and experiences, with the common goal of loving dogs. On-site volunteer opportunities include socializing/getting to know the dogs and the property.