



Monday - Friday 10 to 6
Saturday 9 to 4
Sunday Closed

August 2009

Dirty dogs have more fun...

Do you have a dirty dog? The Iowa City Area Association of Realtors will sponsor their annual dog wash benefit for the Friends of the Animal Center Foundation. This will be held Sunday, August 9th from noon – 4, in the Leash on Life parking lot. Mark your calendar now—and please bring your dirty (or semi-dirty) dogs on down for a wonderful shampoo bath. The shampoo will be donated by Leash on Life.

Make sure your furry friends have on a current rabies tag, or have their certificate with them. What a fun way to spend the afternoon: your dog gets clean, someone else gets dirty, and the Adoption Center gets help!

Yummy new summer flavors...

Sun screen, sand in your toes and delicious outdoor meals are in the sights, sounds and tastes of Summer. Your dog should not be left out of the fun. Merrick's has four new flavors that are the essence of fine summer cuisine. The new flavors include-- Burger Pie and Sweetie Fries, Mixed Grill, Ye Ol' Fish 'n Chips and Camper's Delight. You can buy them separately or in a four pack.



All Merrick foods including Summer Seasonal Flavors are formulated to meet the nutritional levels established by the AAFCO Dog Food nutrient profiles for all life stages.

It's Official...

On Saturday, July 25th Iowa City's second off leash dog park, **Rita's Ranch** was officially opened. Located on Scott Blvd the park offers a nice alternative to the off leash park on the Peninsula. Please remember that dogs must wear an annual permit tag on their collar. The permit is \$25/year with a \$5 discount for spay/neuter and an additional \$5 discount for microchip. The tag is good at both parks. You can get tags at the Robert A. Lee Recreation Center or the Iowa City Animal Care and Adoption Center. You need proof of rabies vaccination and spay/neuter and microchip, if applicable.

Dog Wash to benefit
Friends of the Animal Center Foundation



Iowa City Area
Association of REALTORS®

Adoptable Cat of the Month, Tober...



Tober is a gentle fellow. He may be a little shy, but he does love attention. He is compatible with other cats and a calm dog. He is a beautiful buff tabby about 1-2 years old. To learn more about Tober or any other dog or cat at the Center you can call (319) 356-5295 or visit www.icanimalcenter.org. You can also visit at [4852 Sand Rd SE](#).

The Perfect Squeak...

You name the shape, we have them. You want the sound, we have it. These fun shaped squeak toys all make a different sound for the most discerning of dogs. We can also pick out the one that you find most tolerable. We now have new elephant and frog shaped toys.



Be Careful Out There...

Leptospirosis (Lepto)

What is it? Lepto is a **serious** bacterial disease affecting both dogs and humans that has become more prevalent in recent years. The bacteria can affect the kidneys, liver, spleen or nervous system. Lepto bacteria have been found in cattle, pigs, horses, dogs, rodents, skunks, possums and raccoons. While rare, Lepto can also occur in cats.

How can my dog get Lepto? The disease is transmitted by contact with urine of infected animals (or areas contaminated with urine). Direct transmission occurs through exposure to contaminated water sources, food, or even bedding. Stagnant or slow moving water provides the perfect habitat for the bacteria. The bacteria can survive for weeks to months in soil or water. Freezing greatly reduces the survival of the organism, explaining why infections are more common in summer and fall.

What are the symptoms? Acute symptoms include fever, vomiting, muscle tenderness, and dehydration; liver or kidney failure can follow. Despite the possibility of severe infection and death, the majority of Lepto infections in dogs are chronic or subclinical. Chronically infected dogs may show no outward signs, but may intermittently shed bacteria in the urine for months or years, becoming an active source of infection for other animals and people.

What! I can get it too? Lepto is a zoonotic disease. This means the disease can be transferred from animal to human. Lepto cannot be transferred from human to human, though.

How do I protect my dog? There are several strains of the Lepto bacteria, with vaccines available for the more common strains. Unfortunately, vaccination against one strain does not protect against the other strains. Your veterinarian can diagnose and treat Lepto, but prevention is still the best plan. If you like strolling through the woods, or taking Fido for a swim, you may want to discuss the Lepto vaccine with your veterinarian.

Start Training to Walk...

Paws for a Cause sponsored by the Friends of the Animal Center Foundation will be held Sunday, September 20th at the Johnson County Fairgrounds. Mark your calendar for this fun event that includes contests and games as well as the dog walk. You can start raising pledges now, see www.FACF.org for details.