

March is National Tick Awareness Month

WHAT DO YOU REALLY KNOW ABOUT TICKS?

Ask your veterinarian and visit Canadianveterinarians.net to receive professional answers to your questions about ticks in our video series.

WHAT DO TICKS LOOK LIKE?

WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO REMOVE TICKS?

DO CATS GET TICKS?

SHOULD I CHECK MY PET FOR TICKS?

WHEN ARE TICKS ACTIVE?

Find all the answers to your FAQs about ticks at www.TickTalkCanada.com

Photo Source: Canadian Veterinary Medical Association

Guelph, ON

What is National Tick Awareness Month?

This initiative, led by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) and in partnership with Merck Animal Health, helps shed light on tick behavior and risks and the importance of tick seasonality in initiating parasite control for pets.

Ticks, which can transmit illnesses such as Lyme disease, can now be found in many areas throughout Canada. Yet, despite an increase in public awareness, many people don't know one very important fact about ticks: they don't mind cold weather.

Why March?

Ticks are looking for a blood meal when outdoor temperatures reach 4°C. In many parts of Canada, this can occur very early in the spring or even on warmer days during traditionally cold months – well before many pet owners have even started to think about parasite control.

There's no denying the fact that concern about ticks is growing. People are finding more ticks on their pets – and themselves. Reported cases of Lyme disease are more frequent. Ticks are a hot topic around the dog park, in the news, and on social media. Waiting for the arrival of warm weather before initiating parasite protection leaves pets vulnerable to ticks.

Since the best time to start protecting pets against ticks is before exposure, March is the ideal time for National Tick Awareness Month.

Where can I find the National Tick Awareness Month educational resources?

New in 2019, the www.TickTalkCanada.com website has been created to provide pet owners with a credible online resource to find out more about ticks, and to encourage pet owners to continue the tick control conversation with their veterinarian. This website shares tick facts, a video series addressing 12 common questions regarding ticks in Canada, and links to other resources for additional information.

Together, veterinary teams and pet owners can partner to insure pets are protected from ticks and the diseases they carry.

For more information:

Colleen McElwain
Canadian Animal Health Institute
(519) 763-7777