PET SPOT/ LYME DISEASE IN PETS

Lyme Disease Association, Inc.

Lyme disease is a Multi-Systemic disease caused by the bacteria called Borrelia burgdorferi (Bb) which normally is a bacterial spirochete (spiral) shape.
It is usually contracted by the bite of an infected tick.

Dogs, cats, horses and cows can contract Lyme & other tick-borne diseases & can be tested.

- Dogs act as sentinels for Lyme disease.
- The disease is often recognized in dogs before it's recognized in humans.
- Dogs are 50% more likely to get Lyme disease than people.
- Lyme disease symptoms in dogs: *Lameness, fever, lethargy, swollen joints, enlarged lymph nodes & loss of appetite.*
- Ehrlichiosis & anaplasmosis, also tick-borne diseases, are on the rise in dogs in the USA.
- Dogs tend to roll in leaves & run unchecked into tick habitats.
- Children and their dogs & cats often play together; increasing the exposure of children to ticks.
- Dogs can bring ticks into homes thus into close proximity to people.

- Cats can get Lyme disease, too!
- Lyme disease symptoms in cats: *Lameness (may shift leg to leg) stiffness, pain, fever, decreased appetite & lethargy.*
- Talk to your Veterinarian about protecting your animals from tick-borne diseases.
- Protecting your pet helps to reduce tick exposure of your human family, too!
- Do a daily "Tick Check" on all pets as well as family members.
- Use veterinarian recommended prevention products.
- Remove ticks from pets with the same care as used for humans. Learn how to correctly remove a tick at the Lyme Disease Association web site.
  http://www.lymediseaseassociation.org/index.php/about-lyme/prevention-tick-removal/tick-removal

**This material is presented to provide practical and useful information on the subject matter covered. It is being presented with the understanding that the LDA is not engaged in rendering medical or other professional services. If medical or other expert assistance is required for your pets, the services of a licensed Veterinarian should be sought.*

© Lyme Disease Association, Inc. 2003. Revised: 2014.
www.LymeDiseaseAssociation.org
PO Box 1438, Jackson, NJ 08527 Telephone: 888-366-6611
Copies of "LDA's Lyme disease in Pets Printable Fact Sheet" may be printed in its entirety for free distribution only.