

Burlington Reports

Paws and Claws Society, Inc., Thorofare, NJ

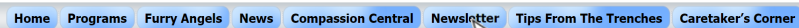


Issue 27, Fall/Winter 2020

Partners in Prevention *Not* Destruction since 1993

For Fur-ther Information . . .

You can find more information on our web site at pacsnj.org



- Find out What's New by following links on our home page or clicking "News".
- Read other issues of Burlington Reports by clicking "Newsletter", or join our email list to be notified when new issues are ready for viewing. Click the link for any issue of the newsletter to comment on that issue's content. Start or join a discussion! Hover over

"Newsletter" on our navigation menu to find "Links for Further Reading" for more information on topics mentioned in *Burlington Reports*, or click "Share with Squirt" to share a question or story in our Squirty's Words column.

- Hover over "Furry Angels" to learn about pets currently available for adoption, read about pets who have found their Forever Homes, read or submit to the Funny Pages, read "Letters From The Heart", download forms, and more.
- Read about Paws and Claws Society's programs or see "Gems of Wisdom and Pearls of Knowledge: Humane Messages" at "Compassion Central".
- Find statistics and No-Kill information on "Tips From The Trenches".
- Read articles about pet care (and even use the age calculator to find out your pet's age in human years) at Caretakers' Corner".
- Look for "Share" buttons throughout our site to share content via Twitter, Facebook, email, and other services.



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Smart Pets: Examples of Animal Ingenuity

How many times have you been surprised by the thought processes of your pets? After living with us, bonding with us, observing our behavior, and learning "how we tick", it should be no surprise to us that our furry, feathered, or finned family members would figure out the best ways to get our attention or communicate their thoughts and needs to us.

Sometimes it isn't even about us; maybe one pet has figured out how to outsmart another, or we get to observe a pet's use of logic in a problem-solving situation. Whether we should be surprised or not, we often are, and we're often proud of our fur-kids for proving to us, once again, how smart they are!

An article on Bored Panda titled *140 Of The Most Unbelievably Smart Things Pets Have Done That Surprised Their Owners* (look for the link on our web site) gives us a glimpse into the ingenuity and varied personalities of our non-human companions.

Some examples:



(Not the actual cat from the story)

One person shared a story about the time they were sitting with their cat and the cat yawned. The person playfully stuck a finger into the cat's open mouth. The cat was understandably surprised by this, and the next time the person yawned, the cat stuck it's paw into the person's mouth! Think that may be where the term "copycat" originated?

Someone else told a story about her dog who'd lost one of his front legs as the result of having been hit by a car. Her dog

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Smart Pets (Continued)

(Continued from page 1)

weighed "easily 80 pounds" and she couldn't lift him, but her husband would carry the dog down the steps to go outside to go potty. Once the dog healed from his injuries, he was able to walk and jump down the steps on his own . . . unless his daddy was home! If his mom was home with him, he'd navigate the steps and go outside with her. If his dad was home, the dog would whine and cry to be carried out. One day, he didn't hear his dad come home, and when he suddenly saw him after jumping down the porch steps, he fell over, crying, but he'd blown his cover and his dad knew it was an act! (That didn't stop him from trying the same behavior after that, which he did, but only with his dad, for the rest of his life.)



(Not the actual dog from the story)

Another post was about a dog who seems to be superstitious. Whenever both pet-parents are gone from home at the same time, the dog puts a shoe on the bed. Her owner theorizes that maybe she did this once and when they came home, she somehow associated the shoe with their safe return home. After years of finding a shoe on the bed every time they'd both been out of the house, the mom had to go out of state for a week. The first day, the dad arrived home to find a shoe on the bed. The second day, the dad came

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Burlington The Cat on Shedding and Hairballs



Hello, Burlington here.

Can you believe another summer has come and gone already? Where does the time go? It's hard to believe it's already Fa . . . (*cough).

Hard to believe it's Fa . . . (*cough).

Ahem. Fa . . . (*cough) Excuse me. Sorry, folks. Hairball.

As I was saying, it's Fall again. This year's Fall activities will be a bit different, of course, due to the Pandemic that we've been living with for most of this year. Trick-or-treating will probably not be a door-to-door event as it usually is, and families are likely to be reducing the sizes of their gatherings for Thanksgiving.

There is one Fall occurrence that won't be altered, however. Cats are shedding to make room for our thicker winter coats.

And with shedding comes the unpleasantness of hairballs.

Excuse me again. Jersey is trying to tell me something. What is it, Jersey?

Mom really thinks hairballs are unpleasant.

Well, yes, that's true. Early this morning, Mom found one with her bare foot in the hallway. That was unfortunate.

And funny!

Mom wasn't laughing, Jersey. Try to see it from her point of



view.

Ok. It was unfortunate.

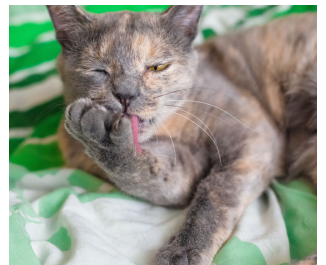
Yes, it was.

But still funny.

Anyway, to get back to what I was saying, most animals grow a thicker coat of fur or hair (and many birds even grow more feathers!) in preparation for the winter cold. This is triggered by the amount of sunlight available during the day. As the days begin to shorten, nature knows it's time to start getting ready.

Indoor cats that are used to year-round artificial light may tend to experience a lighter and more constant shedding all year, but overall, the most active shedding times (and therefore the most active hairball times) tend to be Fall and Spring.

When we groom ourselves (or each other in multi-cat environments), our



rough tongues remove loose fur from our coats and we swallow it. If we swallow only a few hairs, they mix with our stomach contents and pass through our digestive system, but when there is a lot of hair (or if a cat has long hair), it forms clumps in the upper part of our intestinal tracts and eventually causes irritation and must be expelled.

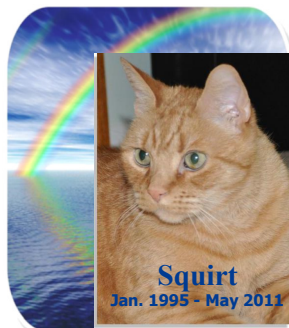
Did you know that hairballs are not

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Squirty's Words From The Rainbow Bridge



In memory of Squirty, a longtime friend of Paws and Claws Society who passed away on Mother's Day 2011 at the age of 16½, Burlington Reports added a new section to remember pets who have passed or to learn more about our animal family members. Ask Squirty a question or share your pet memorial story on our web site (hover over "Newsletter" on our menu). Let Squirty answer your questions or meet your pet(s) at the Rainbow Bridge and escort them to Pet Heaven.

Smart Pets (Continued)

(Continued from page 2)

home to find three shoes on the bed. By the third day, every shoe and boot in the house was on the bed and on couches, and there were even some dirty socks in a bowl! It's a good thing the dog's mom was only gone for a week!

There was also the story of a dog who, when he jumped onto the couch, was told he wasn't allowed on the couch and to get into his bed. The dog jumped down and left the room. A few minutes later, he returned with his bed in his mouth. He tossed the bed up onto the couch and then proceeded to jump back onto the couch and lie down in his bed. Good listener!

There were multiple stories of pets saving their owners from danger in various ways. One such story was about a cat



(Not the actual cat from the story)

who alerted her family in the middle of the night by loudly meowing and throwing herself against the parents' bedroom door until the dad woke up. When the dad followed the cat downstairs, he discovered that there was a fire in an air vent that hadn't yet set off the smoke detector.

How has your pet proved his or her intelligence? Please share your story with us on social media!

Question: I heard that some dogs have a gene mutation that can cause them to have negative effects from some medications. Is this true?

Answer: Yes, there is a mutation that can occur at the MDR1 gene (also known as the ABCB1 gene) in herding breeds, most commonly purebred Collies (approximately 75%) and Australian Shepherds (50%). Other herding dogs have a lower chance of carrying mutated copies of the gene, the chances varying from approximately 5% to 35%, depending on specific breed.

Each dog inherits two copies of the MDR1 gene (one from each parent). When a mutation is present, the severity of the effects vary, depending on whether the dog carries one or two defective copies of the gene.

Certain medications which are easily tolerated by dogs without this gene mutation will show negative effects in dogs with the mutation.

- Several antiparasitic agents (when given at high doses) can cause neurologic effects in dogs with the MDR1 mutation.
- The antidiarrheal agent loperamide (Imodium®) can have potential neurologic effects in dogs with the MDR1 mutation.
- Sedatives such as acepromazine or butorphanol may show stronger effects in dogs with MDR1 mutation. Veterinarians treating dogs who are suspected or known to possess an MDR1 mutation may choose to use lower doses for this reason.
- Chemotherapy drugs (even at low doses) may also trigger more severe side effects, including gastrointestinal toxicity or bone marrow suppression, in dogs with MDR1 mutation.



If your dog is a herding breed (or if you have another reason to suspect the MDR1 mutation), you can ask your veterinarian about a commercially available test to assess a blood sample or cheek swab for the presence of the mutation.

Peace, Love, and Head-Butts.
Squirty



To learn about links for additional reading on topics mentioned in Burlington Reports, see "For Fur-Ther Information" on page one!



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Crossword Puzzle: Famous Animals

Most of the 48 famous animals in this puzzle are, or were, actual animals, and a few are animated animals. These animals are famous for all sorts of reasons, either as TV or movie characters or performers, Internet sensations popular on social media platforms such as Instagram or YouTube, or as pets of people who are famous. (Yes, Googling is allowed! Have fun!) Go to our web site, pacsnj.org, to see the completed version of this puzzle or to solve the puzzle online.

Across:

2: A cockatiel who is famous on Instagram

4: Most popular dog in the movies in the 1930's, originally portrayed by Pal the Wonder Dog, known for the circle around his eye

6: A Japanese house cat who is a star on YouTube, known for sliding along floors into cardboard boxes

7: A Bearded Dragon in Australia, pictured on Instagram doing human activities like grocery shopping or playing video games

8: Most famous dog on Spanish TV, a Jack Russell Terrier who lived to be 16

9: This dolphin was the main character first featured in a 1963 film, then later in multiple films and television shows. Depending on the decade of your birth, you just

may be singing the theme song from the TV series right now!

11: Himalayan cat voiced by Sally Field in the 1993 movie, *Homeward Bound: The Incredible Journey*

13: The name of the cat belonging to Argus Filch of the Hogwarts staff in the *Harry Potter* movies

14: This dog was a character on the long-running British soap opera *Coronation Street* and belonged to character Ken Barlow. Originally named "Lady Freckles", her name was changed because Ken's granddaughter Amy couldn't pronounce her name.

15: Lisa Vanderpump's dog (*Real Housewives of Beverly Hills*)

16: A bear actor whose career began as a cub, playing in the TV series *The Life and Times of Grizzly Adams*

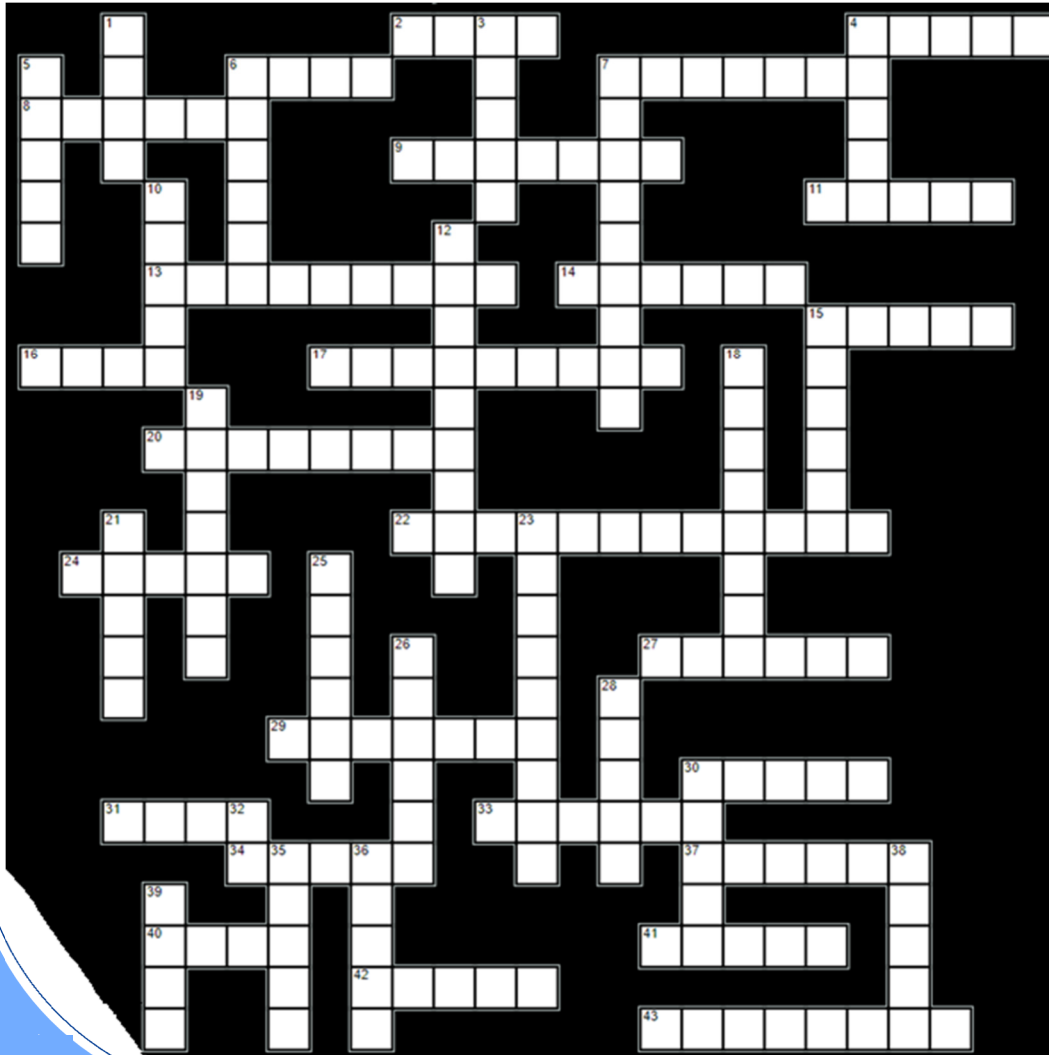
17: Title character in the 1992 American family comedy film which was the first in a series about a St. Bernard

20: Doc's sheepdog in the movie *Back to the Future*

22: Dr. Evil's Persian cat from the *Austin Powers* movies (Mr. _____)

24: Chimera cat whose face is half black-cat with a green eye and half orange tabby with a blue eye

27: The Pritchetts' French Bulldog on the TV show *Modern Family*



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Crossword Puzzle: Famous Animals (Continued from Page 4)

- 29: The actor-dog who played the role named in 35 Down
- 30: The Golden Retriever who played in the 1997 Disney movie about a basketball-playing dog.
- 31: A horse is a horse, of course, of course, and no one can talk to a horse, of course. That is, of course, unless the horse is the famous ____.
- 33: This dog, a fictional character created by Eric Knight, is a female Rough Collie first featured in a short story, later expanded to a full-length novel, published in 1940. This character has been a part of many subsequent radio and TV shows and movies.
- 34: The Golden Retriever who served as "bat dog" and mascot for the Trenton Thunder minor league baseball team
- 37: The image in an 1898 painting by Francis Barraud titled "His Master's Voice" became the world-famous trademark of several record companies who became known as RCA Victor and then RCA Records. The model for the painting was a dog from Bristol, England. What was the dog's name?
- 40: This bulldog, whose owners were inspired by Tillman, the former fastest dog on a skateboard, became an Internet sensation as a skateboarding dog and made the Guinness World Records in 2015.
- 41: This orca whale is a character in a 1993 film whose theme song, "Will You Be There", was produced and performed by Michael Jackson.
- 42: This Jack Russell Terrier was a character on the TV sitcom *Frasier*, portrayed by actor-dog Moose, who once graced the cover of Entertainment Weekly magazine.
- 43: Miniature Bull Terrier, the official mascot of Target Corporation.
- Down:**
- 1: A Chiweenie with an overbite who is an Instagram star
- 3: Beloved African lion whose death caused his killer to be shamed publicly and ended social acceptance of big game hunting
- 4: A pig in an animated children's program popular in the UK, the US, Australia, and Latin America
- 5: ____ MacKenzie, played by a female bull terrier, is a fictional dog character from the late 1980's Bud Light beer advertising campaign. This character was retired by Anheuser-Busch in 1989 following accusations that the company was using the dog in an attempt to market their product to children.
- 6: First name of the advertising mascot for a popular brand of cat food, appearing on its packaging and in many of its TV commercials since 1968
- 7: This Siamese cat, who starred in the 1958 film *Bell, Book, and Candle*, bonded with actress Kim Novak and was given to her at the end of filming.
- 10: The Tanners' Golden Retriever in the '90's TV show *Full House*
- 12: This male German Shepherd, who lived from 1918 to 1932, was an international star, appearing in 27 Hollywood films.
- 15: The Chihuahua who starred as the Taco Bell Dog in the ad campaign that launched in 1997
- 18: Black and white cat from the movie *The Princess Diaries*
- 19: Rescue "Rock Dog" adopted by Melissa Etheridge and her family in 2020
- 21: This is the name of the female Cairn Terrier performer who played the role of the dog in 39 Down.
- 23: This is the nickname of an American Internet celebrity cat known for her permanently cranky facial appearance which was caused by an underbite and feline dwarfism.
- 25: Yellow Labrador Retriever in a 2008 movie starring Jennifer Aniston and Owen Wilson (the name of the dog is in the movie's title)
- 26: Born in September, 1965, this animal was the first non-human to learn to communicate using American Sign Language (ASL) as part of a research experiment on animal language acquisition.
- 28: This bull terrier born in 1929, who earned the title "The Official Greeter of Juneau, Alaska", was memorialized in 1992 with a life-size statue. Mixed into the bronze when the statue was cast were clippings of dog hair from all over the world. This dog's name was ____ Ann.
- 30: This dog is the main character in a series of five films about the golden mixed breed dog. The first of these films was released in 1974.
- 32: The shortened nickname of the Seal Point Siamese cat in the 1965 American thriller comedy film *That Darn Cat*
- 35: The title of the 1989 American comedy film starring Tom Hanks as a police investigator includes the names of both Hanks' character and his canine sidekick. What is the dog's name? (The name of the actor-dog who played the role is the answer to 29 Across.)
- 36: This is the American shorthair cat character in *Sabrina the Teenage Witch*. This character was formerly a witch, who was turned into a cat as punishment by the Witches' Council for plotting to take over the world. The cat has the ability to speak and possesses a sarcastic and somewhat self-centered attitude.
- 38: The name of the animated flying squirrel who was friends with a moose named Bullwinkle
- 39: The iconic Hollywood dog in the 1939 film *The Wizard of Oz*. (The name of the dog who played the role is the answer to 21 Down.)

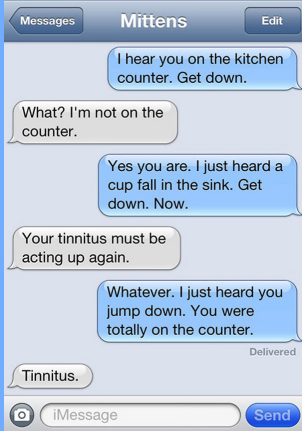
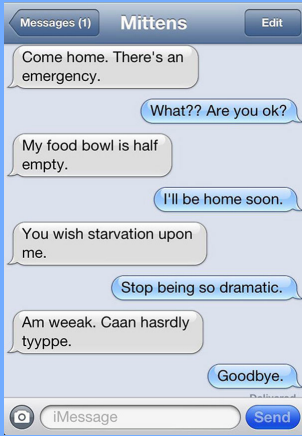


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Pet Humor

Have you ever wondered how different life would be if our cats and dogs were able to use our technology? We found some funny (and perhaps not altogether inaccurate) examples that were shared online by some very creative pet-people!

What if your cat could text?



Burlington The Cat (Continued)

(Continued from page 2)

only uncomfortable for cats; they can actually cause intestinal blockages?

What can you do to help minimize the discomfort and potential danger of hairballs for your cat, as well as the hairball minefield in your house?

Here are some of the ways my human family keeps my hairballs to a minimum:

1. Regular brushing - Brushing your cat not only helps to remove



excess loose hair that would have otherwise turned into hairballs; it also helps to prevent painful matting and it provides a pleasant bonding experience for you and your kitty. Brushing doesn't have to be a long and difficult process. Long-haired cats can usually be brushed in just a few minutes each day. Short-haired cats may need to be brushed only a few times a week. If your cat is not used to being brushed, you can introduce the activity gradually with short sessions and lots of praise. If your cat is nervous, keep in mind that speaking in a calming, reassuring tone of voice can do wonders for your cat's confidence in you and in the grooming process as well.

2. Hairball preventatives - There are many hairball preventative products on the market, and some natural methods work well, also. Adding a bit of

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Burlington The Cat (Continued)

(Continued from page 6)

fiber to your cat's diet (such as canned pumpkin, or small bits of fruits and veggies like apples, carrots, or sweet potatoes) can help to move the fur through the digestive tract. You may also add a teaspoon of fish, safflower, or flax oil to your cat's food. This can coat a hairball, allowing it to pass through the digestive system. There are hairball control cat foods and treats that can help, as well.

3. Water - Be sure to provide your cat with clean water. Hydration is an important component of the digestive process. Most cats love running water, so a pet-safe drinking water fountain might be a great option. Your cat can also get some water from canned food.

4. Cat grass - Because indoor cats don't have access to grasses that grow outside



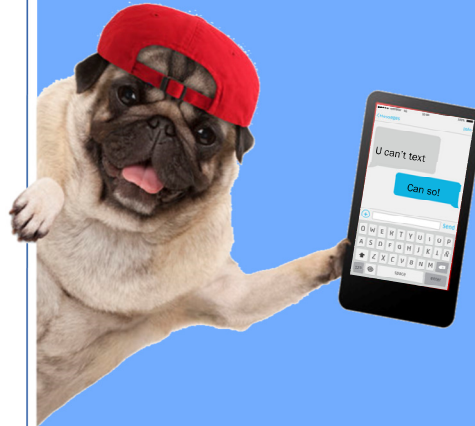
(and indoors *is* the safest place for your cat to live), you can have a container of cat grass available that your cat can sniff, chew, or even eat. Cat grass provides fiber and can also help to soothe your kitty's stomach.



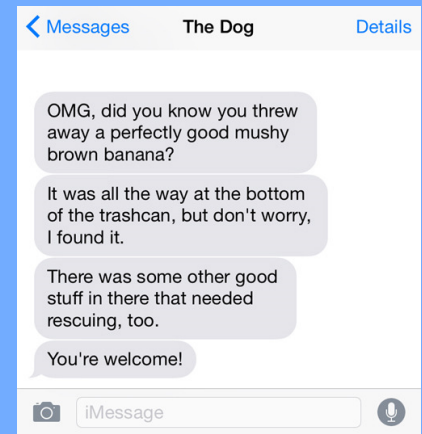
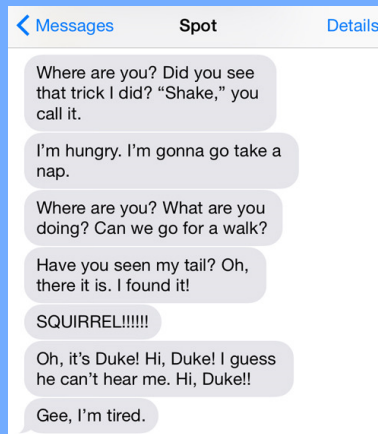
Burlington is a fictional gray tabby cat who belongs to a family in the Northeast United States. "Mom" is Paige Turner, owner of a small book store. "Dad's" real name has not been mentioned to date. Their two children are Mallory and Matthew. The family also adopted a Chihuahua and named her Jersey. See our web site for other issues of Burlington Reports and to read the ongoing adventures and learning experiences of Burlington and his family!

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What if your dog could text?



Pet Humor





Paws and Claws Society, Inc.

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Burlington Reports Issue 27, Fall/Winter 2020

How Do We Protect Our Pets During the COVID-19 Pandemic?

From the CDC web site, updated September 9, 2020:

What you need to know

- A small number of pets worldwide, including cats and dogs, have been reported to be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, mostly after close contact with people with COVID-19.
- Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people is considered to be low.
- It appears that the virus that causes COVID-19 can spread from people to animals in some situations.
- Treat pets as you would other human family members – do not let pets interact with people outside the household.
- If a person inside the household becomes sick, isolate that person from everyone else, including pets.
- This is a rapidly evolving situation and information will be updated as it becomes available.

Because there is a risk that people with COVID-19 could spread the virus to animals, CDC recommends that pet owners limit their pet's interaction with people outside their household.

- Keep cats indoors when possible and do not let them roam freely outside.
- Walk dogs on a leash at least 6 feet (2 meters) away from others.
- Avoid public places where a large number of people gather.
- ***Do not put a mask on pets. Masks could harm your pet.***

There is no evidence that the virus can spread to people from the skin, fur, or hair of pets. ***Do not wipe or bathe your pet with chemical disinfectants, alcohol, hydrogen peroxide, or other products, such as hand sanitizer, counter-cleaning wipes, or other industrial or surface cleaners.*** Talk to your veterinarian if you have questions about appropriate products for bathing or cleaning your pet.