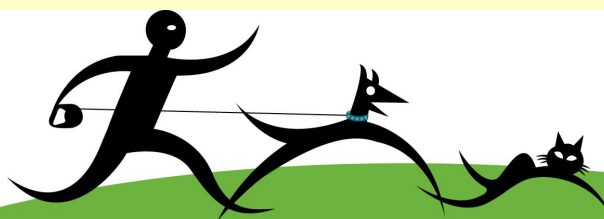


Campus
Critter
Chronicles



Campus Veterinary Clinic Your Pets are our Pets

Why are fecals so highly recommended?

A friend of mine recently confessed that when walking her chunky basset hound, Fred, she doesn't pick up after him. "I've tried, but just the sight of it makes me gag," she admitted. "So I cover it with leaves and instead pick up a pine cone or rock in case anyone is watching."

Appalling, yes. But it's hard to fault, because most dog owners will agree that cleaning up after Fido is one of the less desirable aspects of canine companionship. And trust me, the larger the dog, the larger the output. Sometimes I'm in awe of my skinny greyhound, Elvis, over his daily endeavor to surpass the Great Pyramid of Giza as a wonder of the world. Like my friend, I also gag come pickup time. But barring those occa-

sions when I run out of bags, I do my best to collect his calling cards.

That's because left behind feces are more than just aesthetic eyesores.

Dog feces are a common source of parasites and bacteria, with just 1 gram containing more than 20 million coliform bacteria. Feces can take up to one year to decompose, and rain doesn't hasten the process; it merely breaks up or spreads the droppings, further contaminating the area and attracting flies and other insects.

And bacteria-ridden feces aren't just smelly and ugly, they also present serious health hazards, particularly for children, people with compromised immune systems and pregnant women.

A recent article on WebMD quotes Dr Lawrence T. Glickman of Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine. The zoonosis expert (a zoonotic disease is one that is transferable from animals to humans) states that approximately 750 to 1,500 children go blind each year after contracting roundworms from the fecal matter of dogs and cats. Although rare, the tiny worms are capable of entering the eye and scarring the retina, causing loss of vision. Furthermore, the Association of Professional Animal Waste Specialists warns that the eggs of these common parasites can taint the soil for years. Think about that the next time your toddler is rolling around on the lawn.

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Sarah's Book Club

1. *Timbuktu: A Novel* by Paul Auster

In *Timbuktu* Paul Auster tackles homelessness in America using a dog as his point-of-view character.

2. *Water For Elephants* by Sara Gruen

Set in the circus world circa 1932, a veterinary student is put in charge of caring for a circus menagerie.

3. *Walking in Circles Before Lying Down: A Novel* by Merrill Markoe

It's one thing to talk to your pets, but what do you do when they start talking back? This clever novel holds the answer to that question.

4. *The Sophisticated Cat* by Daniel Halpern & Joyce Carol Oates

A gathering of stories, poems, and miscellaneous writings about cats.

5. *The Dogs of Babel* by Carolyn Parkhurst

A professor becomes obsessed with teaching his dog to speak so he can find out the truth about his wife's death.

Welcome to our New CVC Staff!

Dr Stephen Bourque, DVM

Originally from Canada, Stephen is a relatively new resident to California and the Bay area. He attended the Western College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan, and received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in 2007. As a stepping stone into the Veterinary profession, Stephen studied for 6 years prior to this at the University of Alberta within the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Studies. In 2003, he received his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy with Distinction degree and has numerous years of experience as a Community Pharmacist. In his time away from the profession, Stephen is pursuing the sport of Triathlon. A current member of the Canadian national team, he has competed at 2 triathlon world championships and is aiming to qualify and compete at the Hawaii Ironman World Championship.



Bernadette Nystrom, Practice Manager

Originally from the East Coast, Bernie, as she likes to be called, comes from an extensive veterinary background. She received her Bachelor's Degree from the Univ. of Pittsburgh in Biology and Spanish before relocating to the Bay Area with her husband in 2001. Since then she has worked as a veterinary technician in both general practice and emergency/critical care, as well as teaching in Western Career College's RVT program. She currently resides in Hayward, Ca with her husband and 3 large breed dogs.



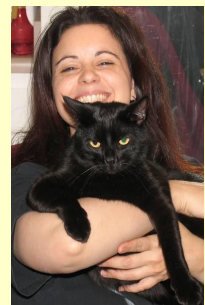
Eryn Meadows, Veterinary Technician

Eryn is a recent transplant to the Bay Area from Texas, where she grew up. She attended the University of Houston and is 1 year shy of receiving her Bachelor's Degree in Biology and Microbiology. She has had all sorts of pets over the years, but currently only has 9 cats, a boxer, a parrot and a cockatoo. She moved to the Bay Area when she recently got engaged and hopes to one day go to veterinary school to be a Large Cat(Zoo) Veterinarian.



Paula Christian, Receptionist

Paula is a graduate from Heald Business College in Hayward and has an AA degree in Business Administration. She currently resides in Oakland with her four cats, Booboo, Felix, Sheba and Playdough. In her spare time, Paula loves playing online games, watching crime shows, spending time with her cats and going out with friends.



Lisa Foster, Receptionist

Lisa grew up in Australia and has been living in the Bay Area for 19 years. She cultivated her interest in animal care while volunteering at the SF SPCA. Having worked as both a veterinary technician and receptionist she is looking forward to getting to know the Campus staff and clients. In her spare time, she enjoys playing her ukulele, riding her '77 Honda motorcycle and hanging out with her 2 cats Lilly and Milly.



Thank you to our September gas card winners for providing their pets with excellent care.

- Jane Tanton with "McBuff" and "Noche"
- Kathy Jo with "Hana"
- Angela Quartiroli with "Tomasina"
- Ariel Clark with "Kemit" and "Luna"
- Amanda Hubert with "Meeks" and "Marty"

Thank you for reading the fall issue of *The Campus Critter Chronicles*. Our intention is to give you a closer look inside Campus Veterinary Clinic while entertaining and providing important information for your pet! We appreciate your feedback and invite you to submit your questions or suggestions for articles in our future newsletters! Please send your ideas to vet4pets@juno.com or visit our website at www.campusveterinary.com. You and your pets are important to us and we look forward to hearing from you.

Con't from Page 1

But thanks to innovative ideas, we can do our civic "doody" without gagging. It still won't be pleasant. But easier, yes.

Most pet supply stores and online services carry an abundance of animal-waste retrievers, usually ranging from \$10 to \$30. Kyjen's Scented Pooch Pick-Up Bags, available at www.petmountain.com, claims to have a subtle potpourri fragrance that "helps neutralize foul odors." One product that I might try is the Scoop n Stroll Pooper Scooper, available for \$14.95 at www.scoopiedoo.com. Just 15 inches long and weighing less than a pound, it collects the feces directly into a standard plastic grocery bag, putting those environmentally undesirable bags to justifiable use.

One product I want to try is Poop-Freeze. This is a specifically formulated aerosol freeze spray that chills animal waste (including vomit) within 10 seconds of contact to

minus 62 degrees, hardening the surface for easy pick-up and disposal. The Website claims that Poop-Freeze is a CFC-free product that is safe for use on both carpet and vegetation. Poop-Freeze costs \$9.95 for 4 ounces and \$14.95 for a 10-ounce can. Used daily, the larger can lasts up to six weeks depending on the size of your dog. It's available online at www.poop-freeze.com and www.solutions.com.

But if you really want to wash your hands of the whole affair, grab your wallet and contact a professional. That's right: for reasonable fees, you can hire someone to do the dirty work for you. With names like the Number Two Crew, the Poop Troop and Poop Happens, companies abound for pet waste removal. Here, in the Bay Area, local companies include family-owned businesses such as Peninsula Animal Waste Services, Doggie Waste Away and DoodyCalls in San Mateo.

Perhaps San Francisco resident Katie Taylor best captures the responsibility of all dog owners: A sign on her front lawn simply says: "Be a credit to your species. Please pick up your dog's feces."

Finding help for that chore

- The Pet Butler, covering Alameda & Contra Costa counties: 800-738-2885, www.petbutler.com
- Pet Maids, serving most of the Bay Area: 408-771-3700, www.petmaids.net

**C a m p u s
V e t e r i n a r y
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www.campusveterinary.com

Office Hours:

Monday Thru Friday

7:20 am to 6:00 pm

Saturday

7:20 am to 3:00 pm

Sunday

Closed