



# PULSE

news from Paws To People, Bridges to Cures

Issue 54, January, 2018



## eWaste and Electronic Recycling Collection January 13th Helps Fund New Study

Save the planet, champion local efforts to save lives, and be a hero--Circle Saturday, January 13 on your calendar to drop off your unused electronics, old appliances, and eWaste. Clean out your junk, load it in the car and drop it off at Petroglyph Plaza (we even have unloading help).



**e-Waste Collection**  
January 13th, 11am until 3pm  
Petroglyph Plaza  
8201 Golf Course Road NW



- Help the Environment--Recycle Computer Equipment & Electronics
- Support Local Nonprofit Efforts
- Fund Research that Improves the Health of People and Pets
- Provide American Jobs

A Day of Service and an Opportunity to Painlessly Give Back

Need convincing? Here are five reasons to bring eWaste to The Paws to People Collection on January 13 at Petroglyph Plaza 8201 Golf Course Rd NW, from 11am until 3pm:

1. It is a FREE opportunity to clear out storage areas and closets. Many recyclers charge a fee to take your stuff and "safely" get rid of it.
2. By recycling your electronics, home appliances and computer equipment you help the environment by keeping toxic stuff out of the landfills;
3. You help create American jobs. New Mexico Computer Recyclers does not send materials overseas; recovery is done in the United States by employees trained in safety and sensitive practices;
4. Since June of 2017, Boofy's Best for Pets eWaste Collection has saved over 4,500 pounds of donated eWaste from the landfills, raising hundreds of dollars for research that fights diseases shared by humans and animals. Your donation will help continue the momentum into 2018 and help surpass the 10,000 pounds milestone.
5. Albuquerque-based Paws to People will receive a donation from the collection based on the total weight of goods donated. The organization advocates for and funds coordinated research in veterinary and medical fields to improve the lives of people and pets. Currently, they are working to fund a data collection study that looks for connections between water quality and autoimmune diseases on a zip code basis.

### What We Accept

We accept just about anything with a plug including but not limited to:



- computers
- servers
- laptops
- keyboards
- wire
- cords
- computer mice
- printers, scanners, copiers, fax machines
- telephones
- cell phones
- hand held electronic devices
- batteries
- UPS backup batteries
- stereos and speakers
- cameras
- CD/DVD players
- VCR's
- file cabinets
- paper shredders
- switches
- routers
- docking stations
- AC adapters
- power supplies
- household appliances
- portable heaters
- projectors
- LCD monitors

## Subtle Changes in Movement

DOGWatch, Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, Volume 22, No.1, January, 2018

As dogs age, they can begin to show problems with balance, which may show up as subtle behavior changes.

Many dogs will experience balance issues as they age. These changes in movement are usually due to neurologic problems, orthopedic problems, or a combination of both. The signs your dog shows can be subtle at first, difficult to notice in our hurried world, but it's important to tell your veterinarian during your dog's checkup (or before!).

Symptoms of balance issues include:

**Dragging feet:** As you trim your dog's nails, watch for a pattern. When a foot is dragged, the center two nails stay in contact with the ground longer, causing excess wear. Those two nails will be visibly shorter than the outside nails. Depending on the severity, you may be able to hear a scuffling sound as your dog walks or see her feet dragging. Some dogs progress to dragging the top of their feet along the ground, causing sores to develop.

Dragging feet is due to a loss of proprioception, which is your dog's knowledge of where his feet are. Proprioception can be lost due to injury or the degeneration of nerves, and may or may not be reversible.

**Nystagmus:** Nystagmus is when the dog's eyes involuntarily dart from side to side. Nystagmus can occur due to a variety of causes, including toxicity and infection, and is often associated with vestibular syndrome. Dogs with nystagmus should be examined by a vet to identify and treat underlying causes.

**Trouble with Stairs:** Navigating stairs requires a good sense of where your feet are and the ability to balance on some feet while simultaneously moving others to the correct spot. If your dog is having trouble with balance or proprioception, stairs will become a difficult task and she may avoid them out of fear of falling.

**Weakness and Stumbling:** Watch your dog for stumbling, especially on familiar ground that she normally does not have trouble with. Stumbling can be due to vision problems or balance deficits. Poor balance can also manifest as generalized weakness, with your dog struggling to get up or down quickly and moving slowly and hesitantly. Think back to spinning around and around as a kid and then trying to walk--spinning messed up the balance and proprioceptive sensors in your brain, making it difficult to tell exactly where the ground was or to walk in a straight line. Dogs can experience dizziness too.

**Head Tilt:** Tilting her head as a weird noise or the promise of a treat is one thing, but a permanent head tilt is a sign of neurologic issues. A head tilt is often present during vestibular attacks.

Treatment of balance issues may be as simple as addressing arthritis, or it may require additional care. However, ignoring symptoms could result in an accident causing your dog to be injured.



## EVENTS

**January 13--eWaste and Electronics Collection**  
11am until 3pm. FREE. Petroglyph Plaza, 8201 Golf Course Road NW, Albuquerque. Accepting just about anything with a plug. for a complete list visit the Event page on Facebook: eWaste Recycling Collection. Easy drive up, drop off.

**January 28--Paws To People Board of Directors' Meeting/Holiday Gathering** 1pm at il Vincino at Corrales Shopping Center.

**Ongoing--Recycle** Bring your empty Earthborn dog and cat food kibble bags (any size), cans, and treat bags to Boofy's Best for Pets 8201 Golf Course RD NW. Earthborn has a commitment to recycling and they provide a rebate for it. The rebate funds benefit Paws To People.

### Ongoing--Gently used Shoe Drive.

Benefits Paws To People and Sanctuary@ABQ. Help our non-profits collect 7,500 pairs of used shoes to earn a finder's fee that will let us direct more donation dollars toward projects that better the lives of people and pets. It is easy to help: just bundle up those old shoes in pairs (tie laces or rubber band) and drop them off in a collection bin at one of our partner businesses:  
Boofy's Best for Pets 8201 Golf Course Road NW, ABQ  
Good Shepherd Animal Clinic 4601 Menaul Blvd. NE, ABQ  
Monterra Apartment Homes 4217 Louisiana Blvd NE, ABQ  
Susie N Cleaners & Alterations, 9500 Montgomery Blvd., ABQ



### On-going--One Community Auto

One Community Auto shepherds your donated car, truck, RV, or boat (any condition, operational or not) through rejuvenation and resale and donates a portion of the profit to Paws To People. It is easy to donate. One Community Auto manages the complete process from donor contact, sale and payments. They are bonded and insured. Contact us to learn more: [info@BridgesToCures.org](mailto:info@BridgesToCures.org)

### New Paws To People Zazzle store.

Always wanted a Paws To People shirt? How about a Heart Ornament with our favorite dog, Siku, featured? Look for new items appearing frequently. Visit [https://www.zazzle.com/paws\\_to\\_people](https://www.zazzle.com/paws_to_people). All purchases benefit Paws To People and you receive unique items for gifting or to reward yourself!



### Safe Travel with Your Pet...

#### Don't Leave Home Without it

- A spare leash
- Collar with your phone number
- A current photo and full written description of your pet showing his full body and face
- First Aid kit with gauze, bandage wraps, artificial tears, and triple antibiotic ointment
- Food and water bowls
- Medications
- Car sickness over-the-counter pills as recommended by your vet
- Vet info
- Poop bags
- Proof of rabies vaccination
- Water from home
- Your dog's normal food
- Favorite comfort toy or cuddle



Committed to helping define a new translational approach to medicine by building bridges in order find innovative solutions to how we detect, prevent and cure diseases in animals and humans that take too many too soon.

For information or to join the fight ... visit our website: [www.BridgesToCures.org](http://www.BridgesToCures.org) follow us on [Facebook.com/PawsToPeople](https://www.facebook.com/PawsToPeople) or email us: [info@BridgesToCures.org](mailto:info@BridgesToCures.org)

MORE



# PULSE



## Zinc Deficiencies in Dogs – What You Need to Know!

7 November, 2017 <http://petpav.com/zinc-deficiencies-dogs-need-know/>

Zinc is an essential mineral that should be present in a dog's healthy diet. Zinc deficiency causes a condition called zinc responsive dermatosis. Certain dog breeds are more predisposed to this disease, particularly Siberian Huskies and Alaskan Malamutes.

### Why is Zinc important in dogs?

Zinc controls certain physiological processes and many aspects of the immune system. Some metabolic functions, including the thyroid metabolism, can't function properly without zinc.

It is not completely understood why northern breeds like Siberian Huskies and Alaskan Malamutes are more prone to suffer from zinc deficiency. It may be down to a genetic inability to adequately absorb the essential mineral.



One theory is that, in the wild, these dogs enjoyed a rich diet of fresh fish, meat and offal. Although they are now domesticated, their dietary requirements are the same but they are often fed processed food which reduces the zinc content. And cheaper dog foods often have zinc bound in a virtually indigestible form. Zinc isn't absorbed very easily in the dog's body. Only 5 to 40 percent of the consumed zinc is absorbed.

### The symptoms of zinc deficiency

Common signs of zinc deficiency in dogs are hair loss, poor growth, lethargy, thickened footpads, redness and weeping between the toes, and open and crusted skin lesions around the mouth and eyes. Male dogs lose the desire to breed and females won't come into heat.

Zinc deficiency during pregnancy can lead to stillborn puppies or physical and mental abnormalities.

### Can dogs have too much zinc?

It's important to stress at this point that these symptoms may have other causes. A vet must be consulted. High doses of zinc reduce the absorption of copper. This can lead to weak bones and anemia. Signs of too much zinc in the body include vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy and rapid breathing. A diet high in calcium and plant food can lead to zinc deficiency

Plants and fiber contain a compound called phytate, which bind minerals such as zinc and reduces the absorption rate. Calcium acts in the same way. A diet high in plant material or calcium could therefore lead to zinc deficiency. Meat and bone contain a higher concentration of zinc.

### Zinc Supplements

A good natural zinc source is meat. Compared to the zinc concentration of plants, the difference in percentage is considerable.

Puppies and dogs from the northern breeds should get supplements containing extra zinc. You can find products for improving your pet's skin and hair condition on the market. Look for high-quality vitamins and fatty acid supplements as well, which can be combined with zinc supplements. Always consult your vet before adding any supplement to your dog's diet.

### Daily zinc recommendation for dogs

Growing puppies need a minimum of 120 mg/kg of food eaten. The puppy should receive a maximum of 1,000 mg/kg. Adult dogs require about the same amounts of zinc, provided they have a medium activity level. Racing and working dogs need between 150 mg/kg and 300 mg/kg of ingested food.



## Human Lyme Disease and Anesthesia: Five Facts

Article ID: 687546 8-Jan-2018 American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA)

*Most people never think of the possibility that anesthesia could affect patients who have Lyme disease, but it can. Many are not even aware that Lyme Disease affects more than just dogs.*



PARK RIDGE, ILLINOIS—An article in the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists AANA Journal, "Lyme Disease and Anesthesia Considerations," discusses possible effects of anesthesia on Lyme disease on human patients undergoing surgery.

Here are some important facts to know:

In the pre-operative assessment interview, patients should let their anesthesia professional know if they have been in an area where there is a risk of contracting Lyme disease, such as hiking areas where ticks are present. Patients who know they have Lyme disease should discuss the choice of anesthetic with their anesthesia provider.

General anesthesia may suppress the immune system. Volatile anesthetic agents may affect the functioning of white blood cells in combating disease.

Patients with "systemic infections" (those that affect the entire body) such as Lyme disease may need to be cautious with spinal or epidural anesthesia, as they may introduce infective agents into the central nervous system. This can be especially important in the early stages of the disease when there may not yet be signs of central nervous system involvement.

Since 2005, 20,000-30,000 confirmed infections have been reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention each year.

Of the diseases required by law to be reported to government authorities, Lyme disease is the fifth most common nationally. Lyme disease is also the most commonly reported infection transferred from one living organism to another in the U.S.

Each disease or health condition has its considerations for anesthesia and surgery. Patients are encouraged to speak freely with their anesthesia provider to ensure that all health considerations are included in the anesthesia plan. Telling the anesthesia provider about allergies, health conditions, complementary or alternative drug use, prescription and illicit drug or alcohol misuse helps to keep the patient safe throughout surgery.



## Beware Xylitol in Sprays

DOGWatch, Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, Volume 22, No.1, January, 2018

Sure, it's in candy, but it can even be in the air.

Most dog owners now know to avoid things like candy and gum with xylitol or to be extremely conscientious about keeping it safely stored away from their dogs. An unexpected place to find xylitol however crops up in the winter months.

Dry air from heating systems and increased frequency of respiratory infections lead many people to use saline type over-the-counter nasal sprays. Unfortunately, many of these sprays now have xylitol in them. If your puppy or adult dog chews on a bottle, he may develop toxic signs—including deadly low blood glucose levels or liver problems. Contact your veterinarian immediately if your dog does get one of these products. It is a true life-or-death emergency.

Why is xylitol used in so many products? It has properties that fight the development of cavities and is antibacterial. From the point of view of nasal sprays, it provides a "cooling sensation" and is a humectant to encourage moisture retention.



### Two Clinical Studies Seek Participants

## Canine Degenerative Myelopathy Study

Advanced technique to help diagnose the disease.

Spinal cord lesions caused by canine degenerative myelopathy can't be seen on a standard MRI which limits a veterinarian's ability to diagnose and monitor the disease. In human Lou Gehrig's disease, which is similar, an advanced MRI technique called diffusion tensor imaging can detect microscopic changes in the spinal cord. Cornell University researchers are looking to see if this technique can find the spinal cord lesions in dogs that are caused by degenerative myelopathy to aid detection and treatment.

Cornell researchers are looking for dogs with a positive SOD1 test for degenerative myelopathy that are showing clinical signs consistent with degenerative myelopathy and for dogs with a normal neurological examination that are over eight years old.

The dog will undergo anesthesia and will be at Cornell all day. The cost of the MRI and pre-anesthetic blood work will be covered by the study.

For questions, contact the clinical trials coordinator at 607-253-3060 or email [vet-research@cornell.edu](mailto:vet-research@cornell.edu).

## Novel mutations associated with calcium oxalate urolithiasis risk in dogs

Eva Furrow, VMD, PhD, DACVIM, 612-625-7493, [furro004@umn.edu](mailto:furro004@umn.edu)

Calcium oxalate (CaOx) urinary stones are a common and painful health problem for dogs. The University of Minnesota has discovered two genetic mutations strongly linked to CaOx urinary stone formation in some dog breeds. Our team is now embarking on a follow-up study to further evaluate these mutations in multiple breeds to confirm their role in stone formation.

*Eligible dogs:* Purebred Miniature Schnauzer, Bichon Frise, Shih Tzu, Border Collie, or Dachshund dogs with a history of CaOx stones (any age permitted) OR Controls – Dogs that are at least 9 years old and have never had calcium oxalate stones. Anyone with a dog that has a history of CaOx stones can participate by sending in a DNA sample from their dog. We can send you cheek swabs and instructions for DNA collection at home or to provide you with simple instructions for blood sample collection by your veterinarian. If you live local to the University of Minnesota, your dog may also be eligible for a single study visit which includes free laboratory tests and \$50 compensation.