



Claws & Paws

VETERINARY HOSPITAL®

FLEA CONTROL

Fleas are one of the most common parasites in cats and dogs. They are very prevalent in southeast Texas and can become a serious problem if left uncontrolled. Having dogs and cats without year-round protection from fleas can lead to infestations of not only your pets, but your home and yard as well.

Adult fleas only account for about 5% of the total flea population. The other 95% are eggs, pupae and larvae. These stages are not visible with the naked eye and make up the majority of the infestation. Fleas like cool, dark places so these eggs, pupae, and larvae can be found in massive numbers in your carpeting, between couch cushions, under couches, beds, and pet sleeping areas. Even your own bed may be an area of significant flea activity! Remember, 95% of the flea problem isn't visible with the naked eye.

Treating your cats and dogs with monthly flea prevention is a must to not only prevent flea infestations, but to regain control once an infestation occurs. In southeast Texas an ounce of prevention is worth much more than a pound of cure when it comes to fleas!

Once an infestation occurs, ridding your home of fleas is a labor intensive process. However, treating all areas of your home is the key to success! Consulting an exterminator can be helpful, but you may choose to do-it-yourself if you are willing to put forth the effort. Completion of the following steps will insure that you will rid your house of fleas once and for all.

Pets – Cats, dogs, and other small mammal pets should be protected from fleas. Flea products are not created equal, so consult your veterinarian to determine which product would be best for your pet, as some products can be toxic if given to the wrong pet. Monthly oral and topical flea control options are available.

Bedding and Furniture - All bedding that can be washed, should be washed in detergent and hot water. Items that cannot be washed should be sprayed with an insecticide that is labeled to contain an adulticide and an insect growth regulator (IGR). There are many brands of product on the market such as, **Knock Out™**, **Bengal™**, and **Spectricide™**. The spray must be used under and between cushions, between your mattress and box spring, remove pets from your home while spraying (or bombing), and **do not** return home with your pets until the treated area is dry.



Flea
(not actual size)



Flea Eggs



Flea Larvae



Flea Dirt

Digested, dried blood is a sign of a flea infestation.

A Full Service Veterinary Hospital for Small Animals & Some Exotics
281.997.1426 - mail@cpvh.com - www.CPVH.com

MON
7:30AM – 6:00PM
TUE
7:30AM – 7:00PM

WED
7:30AM – 6:00PM
THU
7:30AM – 6:00PM

FRI
7:30AM – 6:00PM
SAT
8:00AM – 1:00PM

Home – Remaining areas of your home should be treated with the use of foggers. Foggers do not reach all areas necessary for proper eradication of fleas from your home. It is critical to use sprays to treat the hard-to-reach places associated with bedding and furniture. Be sure to remove all pets and people from the home while foggers are used and for several hours afterward. There are many appropriate products on the market such as **Knock OutTM**, **BengalTM** and **SpectricideTM** foggers that can be used. Be sure that they contain both an adulticide and an insect growth regulator (IGR). Use at least one fogger per room and follow package instructions for safe use. Remember that cats, fish and birds are particularly sensitive to these chemicals and your home should be thoroughly ventilated after use.

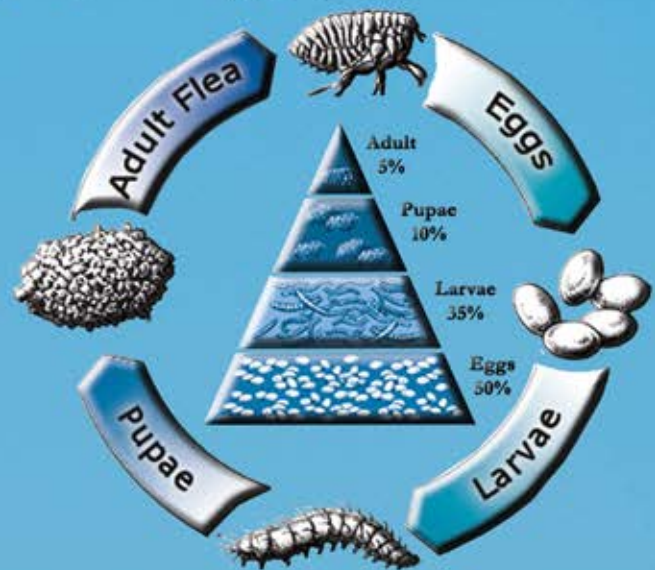
Upon return to your home, thoroughly vacuum all carpeted areas to remove fleas, eggs, pupae, and larvae. **Be sure to remove vacuum bag or empty and thoroughly clean canister. Seal bag or contents of canister in a trash bag and remove from your home, since some fleas may still be alive.**

Yard – Yard treatment can vary greatly for rural, suburban, and city environments. Yards should generally be treated with granules, either **Sevin's Over 'n OutTM**, **Fire Ant Killer Granules**, with *flupyrifluorfen* listed as an active ingredient or **Bayer Advanced Fire Ant Killer Granules** with *imidicloprid* listed as an active ingredient. Using a lawn spreader, follow package directions, to distribute the granules throughout the entire yard. If you live on acreage, only a 30 yard radius from your home needs to be treated.

Decks, Porches, and Houses on Blocks – Any areas of your yard that create cool, dark places, especially those frequented by your pets, must be treated as well. Spaces under your home, porch, or deck should be treated with an insecticide made to be distributed through a garden sprayer hose attachment. **Knock OutTM**, **BengalTM**, or **SpectricideTM** can be used. Be sure that they contain both an adulticide and an insect growth regulator (IGR).

Vehicles - Open all vehicle doors and remove floor mats. Fleas, eggs, pupae and larvae are generally harbored under car seats and floor mats. Use **Knock OutTM**, **BengalTM** or **SpectricideTM** spray. Spray a small amount on carpet and under car seats. Carpeted floor mats should be vacuumed. **Be sure to remove vacuum bag or empty and thoroughly clean canister. Seal bag or contents of canister in a trash bag and remove from your home.** Leave car open for one hour to thoroughly ventilate after use.

Prevention of Future Infestation – Monthly flea preventative is the key to preventing future infestation. All dogs and cats should be treated monthly, 12 months a year. Remember that southeast Texas is a perfect environment for year-round fleas. Please consult one of our staff members or veterinarians to help you choose the prevention that is right for your pet!



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