



## Beckett and Associates Veterinary Services, LLC

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Then, call today to make your appointment!

### WHAT'S NEW:

Xylitol, a sweetener found in some sugar-free chewing gums, candies, and baking goods has a potentially life-threatening toxicity for dogs. Owners beware! The sweetener also commonly referred to as "wood sugar" or "birch sugar", primarily produced in China, has been linked to liver failure in dogs. Signs of xylitol ingestion can develop rapidly, sometimes less than 30 minutes after intake. They can include weakness, lethargy, loss of coordination and vomiting. Products sweetened with xylitol cause a fast release of insulin, causing a rapid decrease of blood glucose.

### Geriatric Wellness Package



This Fall we want to re-introduce our special Geriatric Wellness Profile package for cats and dogs over 6 years of age. The special package will be offered from now until March of 2007. Drop your favorite critter off in the morning and pick them up in the afternoon, where you will be able to speak to the doctor about all of their special findings.

It is important to remember that as your pet begins to age, certain aspects of their health need to be looked at with greater detail. By taking part in this package deal, we offer a full spectrum of tests and exams to make sure that your pet is as healthy as possible.

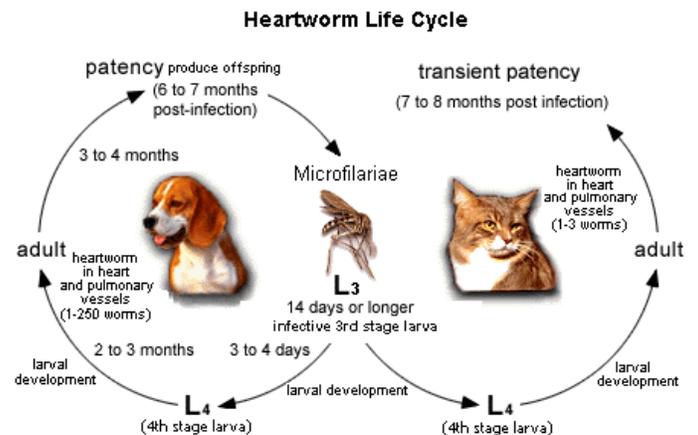
On top of a routine wellness exam, each pet will have a nutritional consult, full blood panel, chest radiograph, and urinalysis done. For more information on each aspect of Beckett and Associates Geriatric Wellness Profile, please see our special newsletter dedicated to explaining each aspect in detail.

### Feline Heartworm

Did you know that our cats can get heartworm, just like our dogs? Heartworm is transmitted via a mosquito that lays a heartworm larva when landing on your pet for a blood meal. Over the next 8 months, these larvae will make its home in your cats' heart and lungs. Research has found that heartworm is less common in cats than in dogs, however, can strike any cat at any time – whether they make a living indoors or out.

Diagnosis of feline heartworm via clinical signs is difficult because it can mimic so many other medical problems. Unlike dogs, cats can be exposed to the heartworm larvae, but not become infected. However, one adult heartworm can be fatal in a cat.

One of the most effective preventatives of feline heartworm is the topical parasiticide from Pfizer, Revolution™. When used correctly – with monthly administration – this product is completely effective in preventing heartworm infestation in your pet.



From the American Heartworm Society website:  
[www.heartwormsociety.org](http://www.heartwormsociety.org)