WHY FLEA & TICK?



Pets are part of the family! For pet owners, the health and well being of their furry friends is a huge concern, especially during warmer months when insect bites are more common. In addition to their painful bites, fleas, ticks & mosquitoes transmit illnesses like Lyme disease & Heartworm disease. The products featured in this catalog will help your customers have peace of mind knowing they are protecting their pets' health without having to limit outdoor activities.

Get Ready for Flea, Tick & Mosquito Season

Most pet parents are all in when it comes to the health of their furry friends. They know that an important part of pet care is preventing painful, disease-carrying bites from fleas, ticks and mosquitoes.

Mosquito season is set to begin in February (once temperatures are steadily above the 50 degrees) in the deep southern U.S. states and work its way north through the spring. Now is the time for pet retailers to prepare for the bug season with a well-stocked "Flea, Tick & Mosquito Solution Center."

Trending Up! Natural Flea & Tick Solutions

Natural solutions saw significant growth nationally in 2018. These products contain essential oils and natural extracts, including: clove that kills flea eggs, peppermint oil that repels ticks, and citronella that repels mosquitoes. Natural products can be used as additional protection with traditional products or as the sole protection.

LYME DISEASE FACTS

Ticks cause a host of illnesses, including Lyme disease, which affects dogs and people alike. A bite from an infected tick can mean **tiredness**, **fever**, **joint pain**, **and loss of appetite**.

Lyme disease dog symptoms can be hard to spot. However, if you believe your dog may have contracted Lyme disease, compare your dog's symptoms to the indicators of Lyme disease below.

Symptoms of Lyme Disease in Dogs

Symptoms of Lyme disease in dogs usually develop two to five months after your dog is bitten by an infected deer tick.

Symptoms of Lyme disease in dogs include:

- A fever running between 103 and 105 degrees
- Lameness
- Swelling in the joints, which appears suddenly
- Swollen lymph glands
- Lethargy
- Loss of appetite

The lameness associated with Lyme disease symptoms in dogs appears suddenly, and it may move mysteriously from one leg to another. This is different from the lameness associated with arthritis, which comes on slowly over a long period of time and affects the same joint or joints consistently.

Symptoms of Ticks in Dogs

Ticks often cause symptoms on the skin which cause owners to take a close look at the cause of the symptoms. Once ticks latch onto the skin, they can cause severe itchiness in addition to red and inflamed skin. Dogs which are allergic to ticks may have especially severe skin itch and inflammation symptoms. Pet owners may also notice ticks on their dog once the tick becomes bloated after feeding on the dog and large enough to see.

Reactions to tick bites may also cause internal symptoms to develop. Many dogs experience mild to high fevers, loss of appetite, pain, lethargy, and depression as a reaction to tick bites. These symptoms may last as short as 24 hours or continue for days to weeks.

Ticks may also transmit blood borne disease they are carrying once they have been latched and feeding onto a dog for more than 10 hours. These diseases can include tick paralysis, Lyme disease, ehrlichiosis, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, and encephalitis. Tick paralysis causes instance lameness, and the dog may be unable to move and seem to be stuck in a coma or sleep. Tick diseases may also cause gastrointestinal illnesses, impair immune function, cause inflammation in the body, and lead to severe and life threatening anemia.

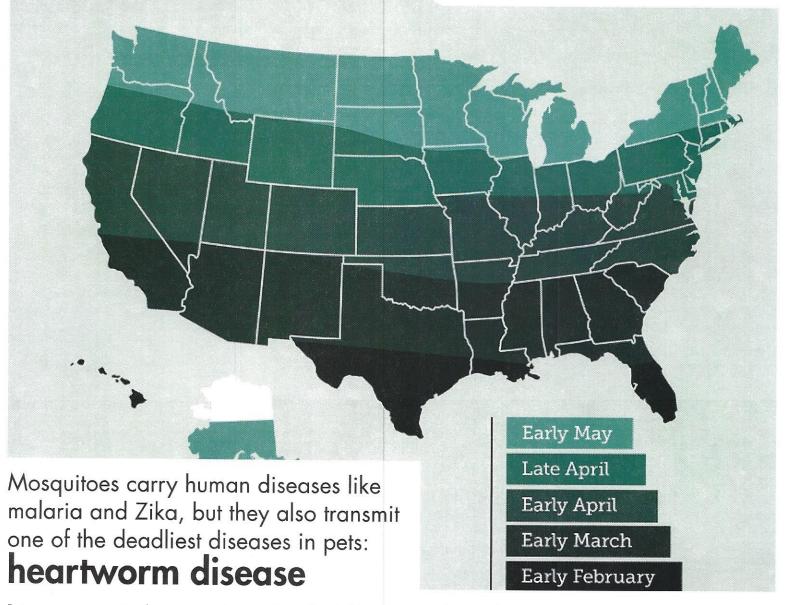
Improper tick removal can lead to skin infections, pain, and exposure to tick diseases.

MOSQUITO FACTS

AVERAGE TIME MOSQUITO SEASON STARTS IN EACH STATE



When temperatures reach a consistent 50 degrees, mosquito eggs begin hatching and mosquito season begins.



Pet owners are not only concerned about fleas & ticks! In warm weather, pesky mosquitoes may seem common and harmless, but they spread dangerous diseases to humans and pets. Mosquitoes transmit heartworm disease and West Nile Virus to dogs and cats. For dogs, frequent outdoor visits leave them vunerable to mosquito bites. Indoor cats, and dogs who live mostly indoors are less likely to be bitten by mosquitoes, however the risk is not eliminated. Luckily many flea & tick products also repel mosquitoes, giving pets additional protection from disease, and pet owners more peace of mind. Don't forget about mosquito bite prevention when choosing your warm weather product assortment!



Look for this icon for products that also repel mosquitoes!