



Happy Thanksgiving !!

We are proud to present our new monthly informational newsletter! Our goal is to provide the clients and friends of Maze Animal Hospital (and Beckwith Veterinary Hospital...coming soon!) with useful up-to-date veterinary information and fun tid-bits, as well as news or notifications from the clinic. We hope you find this helpful and enjoyable.

We're Opening a Brand New Hospital!

Some of you may have seen the building construction just off the HWY 99 Standiford/Beckwith exit. This will be the location of the Beckwith Veterinary Hospital. That's right, Dr. Michael O'Brien is building a new veterinary facility complete with a large animal hospital. Maze Animal Hospital will remain open and act as a satellite clinic to the Beckwith facility. The estimated opening date of the Beckwith Veterinary Hospital is March 2012. We hope to see you at the open house! Details will be announced.

Did You Know Canned Cat Food, Rather Than Dry, Is A Healthier Option For Our Feline Friends?

That's right! Cats are natural carnivores, which means their diet should consist of high quality proteins, fat and water. This makes canned cat food a wiser choice. Dry food is higher in carbohydrates and can lead to obesity and higher blood glucose levels. The increased water content of canned food also helps flush out the urinary system making

feline lower urinary tract disease a less common occurrence. The article abstract below shows that feeding only canned food leads to a healthier body weight. Make the switch today!

Effect of water content in a canned food on voluntary food intake and body weight in cats.

Am J Vet Res. July 2011;72(7):918-23.

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Article Abstract: Objective-To determine whether water content in a canned food diet induces decreases in voluntary energy intake (EI) or body weight (BW) in cats fed ad libitum. Animals-16 sexually intact male domestic shorthair cats. Procedures-Maintenance EI was determined for 2 months in 10 weight-stable cats consuming a control diet (typical colony diet). Cats were allocated into 2 groups of equal BW and fed a canned diet (with-water [WW] diet) or a freeze-dried version of the canned diet (low-water [LW] diet) twice daily. Diets were identical in nutrient profile on a dry-matter basis. Each dietary treatment period of the crossover experiment lasted 3 weeks, with a 3-week washout period between diets. Body composition measurements were determined by use of deuterium oxide at the end of each dietary treatment. Daily food intake was measured for determination of dry-matter intake and EI. Six other cats were used in preference tests for the 3 diets. Results-EI was significantly decreased for the WW diet (mean \pm SD, 1,053.0 \pm 274.9 kJ/d), compared with EI for the LW diet (1,413.8 \pm 345.8 kJ/d). Cats had a significant decrease in BW during consumption of the WW diet. Body composition was unaltered by diet. In short-term preference tests, cats ate significantly more of the WW than the LW diet. Conclusions and Clinical Relevance-Bulk water in the WW diet stimulated decreases in EI and BW in cats. The impact of water content on energy density and food consumption may help promote weight loss in cats.

New Options For Oral Flea Control For Your Dog!

COMFORTIS™:

A once-monthly beef-flavored oral tablet for flea control. Spinosad is the active ingredient.

Pros:

- starts killing fleas in 30 minutes
- no messy topical to apply
- can't be washed off

Cons:

- SLIGHTLY more expensive than other flea controls
- causes a small portion of dogs to vomit

Overall, a great and effective option for flea control!

TRIFEXIS™:

A once-monthly beef-flavored oral tablet for flea **AND** heartworm prevention. Trifexis is the combination of Comfortis and Interceptor.

Pros:

- Convenient two-in-one tablet
- Less expensive than buying flea and heartworm prevention
- Prevents roundworms, hookworms and whipworms

Cons:

- Requires a heartworm test if dog is not current on heartworm prevention

Trifexis is an outstanding flea and worm preventative.

Fun Animal Facts:

The length of pregnancy in a hamster is only about 20 days.

The sweat glands of dogs and cats are on the pads of their feet.

There are a higher proportion of polydactyl (extra toes) cats in the major port cities (i.e. San Francisco, Boston, etc.). This is thought to be due to sailors taking these cats on ships for good luck.

