

# The Mosquitoes Are Biting!

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# SAMPLE



This important health awareness message provided to you by:

**Stockdale Animal Hospital**  
(999) 999-9999 • [www.sah.com](http://www.sah.com)

The mosquitoes are biting – and thanks to a particularly wet spring and warmer weather public health officials across the country warn of a significant increase in the mosquito population.

Mosquitoes can be more than just a nuisance – they can also make people and pets seriously ill. They can spread many diseases including Malaria, yellow fever, St. Louis encephalitis, West Nile virus, and dog or cat heartworm. Mosquito-borne diseases are responsible for more human deaths than any other living creature.

Water is key to the growth of mosquitoes. All young mosquitoes hatch and develop in water before they mature into flying insects. It can take as few as four days for mosquitoes to mature.

Anything that can hold water for more than a few days can be a mosquito breeding site. **Eliminating potential mosquito breeding sites is important.** Drain old tires and eliminate standing water in rain gutters, buckets or other containers where mosquitoes can breed. Empty and change the water in bird baths, fountains, wading pools, rain barrels, and potted plant trays at least once a week to destroy potential mosquito habitats. Keep swimming pool water treated and circulating.

# Heartworm Facts...

- The mosquito is the only known vector for transmitting heartworm.
- Mosquitoes are found in all 50 states.
- Heartworm Disease has been found in all 50 states and infect many animals including coyotes, foxes, wolves, dogs, cats, ferrets and sea lions.
- Virtually 100% of dogs exposed to infective heartworm larvae become infected; in cats, this number drops to 61% to 90%.
- Keeping your pet inside will not guarantee that it will not get heartworm disease. Mosquitoes can get inside the house. A study performed at NCSU indicated that 25% of cats infected with heartworms were solely indoor cats.

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important  
**HEALTH  
ALERT**

**MARKETING TIP** – You can't sit back and expect clients and revenue to find you! Clients want information on pet health. You have to constantly be communicating with clients on health topics important to their pet.

Your heartworm testing and prevention recommendations along with any special offers can be placed in this yellow box.