

April 2020

In this month's issue:

- A quick reminder about our COVID-19 protocols
- Free delivery
- Our top tips for keeping your pets happy and healthy while staying safe at home



Bayview Veterinary Surgery
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Our Vets

Dr Austin McMahon (BVSc)
Dr Bronwyn McMahon (BVSc)
Dr Sheyne Horton (BVSc Hons)
Dr Rachel Hansen (BVSc Hons)
Dr Madeline Smith (BVSc Hons)
Dr Hanna Joensuu (BVSc Hons)

Our Nurses – Ann Johnson,
Rachael Hultgren, Kirsty
Williams, Olivia Townsend, Zoe
Tweddle, Samantha Douma,
Leigh Butler, Dakota Beattie,
Nicki Klevering, Jess Wakelin

Clinic Hours

8am-6pm Monday-Friday
8am-1pm Saturday
Available 24hrs for emergencies

We hope all our clients and patients are staying safe and healthy during this challenging time, and we thank you for your ongoing patience and co-operation with our new no-contact clinic policies.

As the situation with COVID-19 is constantly evolving, we urge all our clients to please keep an eye on our website (bayviewvets.com.au) or our Facebook page to stay up to date with our latest procedures.



Free Delivery Reminder

The Bayview team want to support our community through this time, so we are offering delivery free of charge for pet food, prescription diets, medication, and health products, to help you stay at home.

Please call the clinic on (07) 4125 2788 to place an order.

Keeping Your Pets Happy at Home

In doing our part to flatten the curve and practice social distancing, we are all finding ourselves at home spending a lot more time with our pets. While this can be a bit of a treat for both parties, it's important to remember how this may impact the wellbeing of our furry family members.

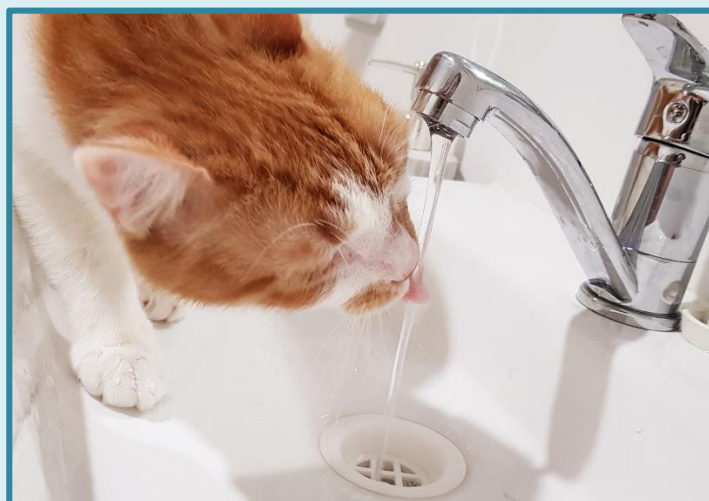
Our pets can be very routine-oriented, and thrive on having a consistent, predictable daily schedule. Now suddenly their humans have started spending more time at home, making more noise and disrupting their sleeping patterns. The poor things!

These changes to their day-to-day life can cause your furry loved ones more physiological stress than you might realise. We have put together a few tips on keeping a happy, healthy household during this time.

Tips for Cats

Our feline friends can be very prone to urinary problems when they're stressed out. We have seen an increase in the number of cats urinating inappropriately outside of their litter trays, or even more worryingly, straining or passing blood when they try to go to the toilet. Here are some ways we can help to prevent this:

- Keep to their usual routines - try to have feeding times and play sessions at the same time of day that you would normally do them. Make sure your cats get some "me-time" in the middle of the day!
- Put out an extra litter tray in a nice, quiet spot, preferably away from their existing trays. (A good rule of thumb is to have the same number of trays as the number of cats in the household, plus one spare - kitties prefer not to share!)
- Make sure your cat has plenty of warm, quiet places to get away from people and have some alone time. Don't bother them if they are chilling out in a hidey-hole, let them approach you when they feel like they want attention. Vertical space, such as a nice cat tower, can also be very beneficial in multi-cat households.
- Try a calming pheromone product, such as a Feliway diffuser. This is an odourless product that mimics the calming pheromone cats produce for their kittens and can help your kitty feel comforted and safe.
- Make sure your cat has plenty of access to fresh water. It can help to put out a few extra bowls, away from foot traffic or noisy parts of the house. Some fussy cats prefer to drink from running water and may appreciate a cat fountain.



If your cat is straining to urinate, is passing blood, or is unable to pass urine, this may indicate a medical emergency. Please contact the clinic on (07) 4125 2788 urgently if your cat is displaying any of these symptoms.

Tips for Dogs

Our canine friends are generally a bit happier to have their people at home full time - but some are feeling a little crowded and can lash out in an uncharacteristic way. We have seen an increase in dogs showing anxious behaviours, so here are our tips on keeping the peace.

- Keep to their usual routines - try to have feeding times, walks, and play sessions at the same time of day that you would normally do them.
- In multi-dog households, make sure your dogs are separated from one another for meals, treats, and chews. Food guarding can be a very common source of aggression between otherwise friendly dogs, especially if they are feeling a bit stressed.
- Get some fresh air! Being cooped up in the house can be stressful for everyone, and both you and your dog will benefit from a nice walk outside once a day. Just be sure to follow the appropriate social distancing rules while you are doing so.
- While they are most certainly enjoying some extra playtime and exercise, dogs typically need around 14 hours of sleep a day, and just like us, they can get snappy when they are feeling tired.
- If the kids are at home, make sure they are respecting your dogs' personal space. Kids can be very overwhelming for dogs and can easily miss the warning signals that the dog has had enough of playtime. Make sure your dog has a private, kid-free zone to retreat to, such as a crate, kennel, or area of the house reserved just for them.
- We don't want your dogs developing any separation anxiety once this is all over! Try to enforce some independent time through the day - let your dog go outside and chew his toys by himself for an hour or two, or if you are working from home, try to spend at least part of the day in a different room from your dog while she enjoys a chewy treat on her own. We want them to remember how to occupy themselves when you aren't there to do it!

**If your dog is struggling with the changes despite these tips, there's plenty more we can do to help.
Please contact the clinic on (07) 4125 2788**

