

External parasites, including fleas, ticks, and mites, can not only cause discomfort and health issues for your pet but also pose a risk to humans.

- **Fleas:** These small, dark brown, wingless insects that feed on the blood of animals. They can cause itchiness, red bumps, and severe skin allergies or infections. Fleas can also transmit tapeworms and cause anemia in severe infestations.

- **Ticks:** Ticks can spread many diseases, including Lyme disease, Ehrlichiosis, Anaplasmosis, and Rocky Mountain spotted fever, to both pets and humans. They attach to your pet's skin, feeding on blood and potentially causing tick paralysis. Ticks are often found in wooded, grassy, or densely vegetated areas.

- **Mites:** There are several types of mites that can affect pets, including ear mites, demodectic mites, and sarcoptic mites. Mites can cause various skin conditions, such as mange, leading to symptoms like hair loss, skin redness, itching, and infections if left untreated.

- **Lice:** Pet lice are small, wingless insects that live on the skin of animals. There are two types of lice, chewing and sucking lice, both of which can cause itching, skin irritation, and in heavy infestations, anemia. Lice are less common than fleas and ticks but can be problematic in crowded conditions.

- **Mosquitoes:** While primarily known for their bites, mosquitoes can be external parasites and vectors for heartworm disease in dogs. Heartworms are transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito, leading to serious heart and lung disease. It's important for pet owners to implement regular preventive measures against these parasites to protect their pets and themselves from the discomfort and health risks associated with these pests.

Use topical treatments, oral medications, or collars designed to repel and kill external parasites. We can recommend a product that suits your pet's needs and lifestyle.

Prevention and Treatment:

- **Environmental Control:** Regularly wash your pet's bedding, vacuum carpets, and treat your home and yard to eliminate parasites and their eggs.
- **Regular Checks:** Especially during the warmer months, check your pet regularly for ticks, fleas, or evidence of skin irritation. Flea combs can be a useful tool to check for these small parasites.
- **Prompt Treatment:** If you spot any signs of external parasites or your pet starts to show discomfort, such as excessive scratching or biting at their skin, please contact us immediately for advice and treatment options.

Beyond the immediate discomfort and potential for disease transmission, unchecked external parasites can lead to significant health issues. An effective control program is vital, not just in treating infestations but in preventing them before they can affect your pet and family.

If you're unsure about the best external parasite prevention strategy for your pet, or if you need to replenish your current supply, don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to ensure that your pet remains healthy, comfortable, and free from the distress and danger of external parasites. Remember, proactive prevention is the most effective way to protect your pet and your family from the risks associated with external parasites. Let us help you find the perfect solution for your pet's needs.