

# ORAH Info:

## Parasites and your pet



There are many parasite-control products available over-the-counter, but it's important to consult with your veterinarian before using them. Many of these products are not very effective and may contain ingredients that can be harmful to your pets.



At Onion River Animal Hospital, we recommend the following:

**Interceptor**, for dogs, is a palatable oral monthly medication that prevents heartworm disease (which is transmitted by mosquitoes) and intestinal parasites (roundworms, hookworms, and whipworms). Because of its efficacy against intestinal parasites, we recommend that you continue prevention year round. Humans exposed to intestinal parasites can have serious health problems, so protect your family while you protect your pet.



**Cheristin**, for cats, is a fast-acting topical flea control that kills fleas on contact and is applied monthly to their skin.

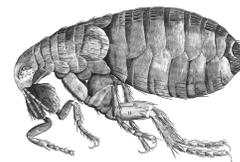
**Bravecto for Cats** is a topical product that kills fleas and ticks. Each dose provides protection for 3 months.

For both dogs and cats, a **Seresto Collar** works similarly to a topical flea/tick preventative. The active ingredients are released in low concentrations from within the collar and, thanks to your pet's skin and coat, spread from head to toes, even the tail. Seresto is a long-lasting 8-month collar that kills and repels fleas and ticks before they bite.

**Bravecto for Dogs** is a pork-flavored soft chew. Because it is hydrolyzed, it can be safely given to dogs with food allergies. A single dose lasts 3 months and is indicated for the treatment and prevention of both fleas and ticks.

**Nexgard**, for dogs, is a beef-flavored chew that is given once a month. This product kills adult fleas and ticks, and is indicated for the treatment and prevention of flea infestations and for the treatment and control of ticks.

We recommend **year-round parasite control** because fleas are found year-round on pets and in houses, and because ticks, which carry Lyme and other diseases that affect humans as well as pets, have been found on pets and on people even in the winter here in Vermont. If you prefer to use products seasonally, ticks are most frequently seen from March through December.



Unfortunately, if your pets have fleas, your house has them too. Many more fleas are in the environment than on the pet. And if you are seeing live fleas, you have LOTS of them. Fleas have a long life cycle and can go for weeks without feeding. To effectively eliminate an existing infestation, vacuum daily, wash all bedding with hot water weekly, treat all fur-bearing animals in the household for at least three months, and ideally continue through the end of flea season (December). By using a veterinarian-recommended flea product preventatively, you can avoid an infestation in your house.

2386 Airport Rd., Berlin, VT 05641 802-223-7765

Colleen Bloom, VMD • Karen Bradley, DVM • Anne Culp, VMD • Hannah Flynn, VMD • Hailey Gentile, DVM • Lauren Quinn, DVM