## **Deworming Kittens**

My cat has What?!

\* Kittens, pregnant and nursing animals are at highest risk for Intestinal Parasitic Infections.

Puppies will get parasites from their mothers through the placenta &/or through the mammary glands during nursing.

Deworming should be done at 2, 4, 6 & 8 weeks of age, then once monthly until 6 months of age.

Nursing cats should be treated along with the kittens because they often develop patent infections along with their young.

Kittens suffering from intestinal worms may show symptoms including poor hair coat, weight loss, decreased energy and/or a distended stomach (pot-bellied appearance). Symptoms will depend on your pet's health and the severity of the infection.

## Ask your veterinarian about parasitic prevention & control.

## <u>Zoonosis</u>

whats bugging you?

Definition: a disease which can be passed from an animal to a human.

While most parasites are species specific, it is possible for humans to become infected. Children, the elderly, and immune compromised people are at especially high risk of a parasite infection.

Roundworms and Hookworms, intestinal parasites in puppies, can be transmitted to humans through ingestion. Hookworms can also be transmitted through the skin. This is especially harmful to young children who crawl on the floor, play outside in the dirt and are frequently putting their hands in their mouths.

## How can I protect myself?

Always remember to scoop up after your pet(s) and disinfect where appropriate.

Clean hands regularly, especially after cleanup.

Most importantly deworm your pet(s) on a regular basis.

To learn more about the potential risks to humans please ask your veterinary staff.

