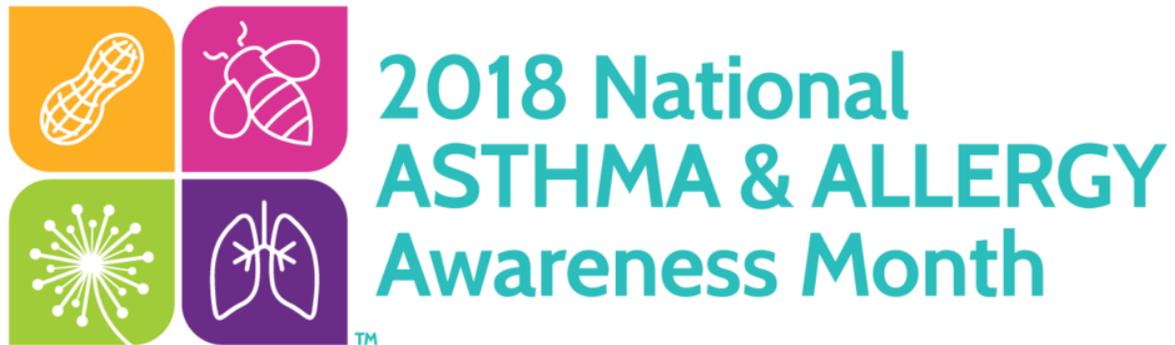


Pets and Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month

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Pets and Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month

With spring here and summer just around the corner, everyone experiences an increase in their sneezing fits. Due to pollen, pet dander, and a host of other causes, this time of year is the peak season for allergies.

The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America declares May to be Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month due to it being the peak season for seasonal allergies and to bring awareness to asthma. The focus is heavy on helping lessen the struggle with allergies and asthma, as there is no cure, and how to help prevent allergy and asthma related deaths.

On the flip side of that, it often goes unmentioned that our four-legged friends can have allergies too, especially seasonal ones like us. But do you know what to look for? Or how to treat your pets allergies?

Lucky for us, www.petmd.com as a list of symptoms to look for in your pets when it comes to seasonal allergies. The [article written by Maura McAndrew](#) lists 7 different signs to look for as symptoms, since they can't actually tell us how they're feeling:

- Itchiness
- Inflamed and Infected Skin
- Excessive Shedding
- Paw Licking
- Scooting or Licking Anal Region
- Chronic Ear Infections
- Respiratory Issues

(To get a more in-depth information about these symptoms, follow the link above!)

Okay, so, you know what to look for, but now, how do you treat it? Your best option is start by going to your regular vet and having them examine your pet. They'll be able to understand better than anyone else what's ailing your pet, especially if they've seen your pet regularly. They won't have the end-all cure for their allergies, but they can do a lot to make the spring and summer season easier on your furry friend.

What can you do at home to help? Start with keeping an eye on your local pollen count – pets often mirror their owners when it comes to reactions to pollens. Also try to reduce your household allergens – better known as house dust mites and house dust. If you keep this under control, not only will it help you, but your furry friends as well.

Always – ALWAYS – consult your vet before giving your pet allergy medications; what may work for you may not help your pet, or could result in a worse situation.

Also make sure you're keeping up on your regular flea and tick treatment – it can go a long way.

Allergy season isn't easy for anyone, but if we work together, maybe we can limit the number of sneezes! Good luck!