

# Forestbrook Pet Hospital

As spring and summer approach, so does **heartworm season**. Heartworm disease is a very serious condition that can be fatal if pets are not tested early and given preventative medications.

Keep your pets healthy this heartworm season!

**We are offering 50% off heartworm testing from April 1st to May 31st!**

We carry a variety of products and medications to prevent parasites including worms, fleas, heartworms and ticks.

Please call us to book your pet's appointment:

**905.831.1118**

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**  
3-1105 Finch Avenue, Pickering  
[www.ForestbrookPetHospital.ca](http://www.ForestbrookPetHospital.ca)  
[info@ForestbrookPetHospital.com](mailto:info@ForestbrookPetHospital.com)



# HEARTWORM FACTS

**FORESTBROOK PET HOSPITAL** 3-1105 FINCH AVENUE, PICKERING

- Heartworm disease is a serious and potentially fatal condition caused by parasitic worms that invade the arteries of the lungs and sometimes the right side of the heart of dogs, cats and other mammals.
- Heartworm infection occurs when an adult female heartworm releases her young (microfilariae) into the bloodstream of an infected animal. Mosquitoes become infected when they draw blood from infected animals. When a mosquito carrying microfilariae bites a cat or dog, the microfilariae are transmitted and they grow and develop into adult worms that reside in the heart, lungs and associated blood vessels.
- Dogs and cats can both be infected with heartworms, regardless of whether they are indoor or outdoor pets.
- A heartworm infestation can interfere with valvular function and cause serious damage to internal organs, including liver and kidney dysfunction, and heart failure.
- Symptoms of heartworm disease are usually only detected once the disease has progressed over time.



- Symptoms of heartworm disease include: persistent coughing, weight loss, lethargy, fatigue after very moderate exercise, difficulty breathing and reduced appetite.
  - Treatment is available for heartworm disease, however the treatments are costly, hard on your pet's body and can cause severe complications in cats.
- Heartworm disease is easily preventable if you take the proper measures and ensure your pet is tested and given a preventative program.



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Information provided by the American Heartworm Society.  
For more information please visit: [www.heartwormsociety.org](http://www.heartwormsociety.org).