

Keeping your pet happy and safe



How do I prevent ticks?

There are many effective products available now for both dogs and cats. In dogs we recommend nexgard monthly and cats we recommend bravecto top spot every three months.

Unfortunately there is no one product that gives 100% guarantee, so daily tick checks during peak season are recommended. A large percentage of animals with one tick will have a second tick. Clipping long-haired cats makes tick checks easier.

If in doubt, please call us.

Opening hours & contacts

The Lake Veterinary Hospitals are here to provide professional and caring attention to your pet.

Please feel free to make an appointment at any of our practices:

CHARLESTOWN (02) 4943 6066

6 Smith Street, Charlestown
Just off the highway, between Ridley and Ida Streets

Surgery hours

Monday - Friday	8am - 6pm
Saturday	8am - 12noon

BELMONT (02) 4945 9677

18 Maude Street, Belmont
Turn off the highway at ALDI, we are opposite Baptist Church

Surgery hours

Monday - Friday	8am - 6pm
Saturday	8am - 12noon

SWANSEA (02) 4971 4062

130 Pacific Highway, Swansea
Easy parking outside our front door or available at rear

Surgery hours

Monday - Friday	1.30pm - 4.30pm
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www.lakevet.com.au



Your pets are part of our family too

Flea & tick control



What you need to know
about fleas and ticks, and
your pet



BELMONT

CHARLESTOWN

SWANSEA

www.lakevet.com.au

Looking after your pet



Flea prevention

Fleas can be very difficult to get under control. They cause itching, irritation and even hair loss. Some pets can actually be allergic to fleas and the symptoms are more severe. These days there is a large range of effective and safe products available. Please see our friendly staff for more details.

Some tips for a flea-free pet and house include:

- Use flea prevention all year round. Fleas lay enormous amounts of eggs so that by the time fleas are noticed, the pet's environment is already contaminated by eggs which can last for up to six months
- Fleas most likely come from your pet's environment. If your pet is inside the house and they have fleas, there will be eggs in the house. Use flea bombs in the house, insect sprays under furniture and regularly vacuum carpets and lounges
- If possible do not allow pets under the house. This cool, dry, protected environment is a perfect breeding ground for fleas
- Treat **all pets** in the household. Even if a pet is not scratching it doesn't mean they're not harbouring fleas. Ferrets, rabbits and rodents can also carry fleas
- Wash bedding weekly in water warmer than 60 degrees for at least 10 minutes and clean out kennels. Eggs will build up in greatest numbers where your pets lies and scratches
- Flea rinses, shampoos and powder rarely give adequate ongoing flea control.



Tick paralysis

The paralysis tick, *Ixodes holocyclus*, is a common parasite found in our coastal environment. The effects of its toxin can be very serious even causing death. Pets often pick up ticks when walking through bushy vegetation, however native wildlife can also be a source. Ticks are often found on the head, neck and shoulder regions.

Symptoms can include:

- weakness or wobbliness of the back legs
- change of bark or meow
- increased respiratory effort and distress
- gagging, grunting or coughing
- vomiting or regurgitation



What should I do if my pet has a tick?

If you find a tick, remove as soon as possible, using either a tick removal device, tweezers, or fingers in a twist and pluck action. Prompt treatment with tick antiserum (TAS) and supportive care in hospital greatly improves your pets chance of recovery. Please phone us if you find a tick on your pet and we can advise the best options for your pet.

How do I care for my pet after tick treatment?

Our skilled veterinarians will assess when it is safe for your pet to go home. Once at home it is extremely important to reduce stress and excitement for up to four weeks. Stress and excitement can greatly exacerbate symptoms and lengthen recovery.

