



THE FELINER

3945 Edison Lakes Parkway • Mishawaka, IN 46545-3006 • (574) 259-5291 • www.magranepmc.com

A MAGRANE PET MEDICAL CENTER INSERT FOR CAT LOVERS, SPRING 2012

ALLERGIC TO CATS?

Quite a few cat lovers are allergic to cats, or find that a child, spouse, or close friend is allergic to the pet they love. Of course, the only the only way to completely stop allergic reactions to cats is to avoid cats and indoor spaces inhabited by cats. There are over-the-counter and prescription medications for allergic persons that may help.

But is there anything else the pet owner can do? People have tried many coping mechanisms in order to keep their cats, with varying results. The following suggestions will not work for everyone, but some may be helpful:



Sprays for cats are available online or possibly at local pet stores. These are designed to reduce the allergens from cat dander and from saliva left on the cat's hair when it grooms itself.

Do NOT allow cats access to the allergic person's sleeping area, even during the day.

Limit upholstered furniture, drapes, and rugs in the part of the house inhabited by cats—fabric retains cat dander and hair. Fabric surfaces should be washed and shampooed regularly; hard surfaces should be wiped down regularly with *damp* cloth, mop, or wipes.

Groom the cats about *every three days* (best done by someone NOT allergic, outside of the allergic person's home). This includes Furminating the cat to eliminate dead hair (using a special comb), brushing the cat's skin with a soft brush, bathing the cat (poor kitty!) using cat-friendly shampoo. Long haired cats could be shaved about *every three months*.



Feed the cats a high-quality food containing Omega-3 fatty acids (such as Hill's Science Diet—their diet for cats with sensitive skin may help reduce shedding and/or dander in some cases) OR squirt the cat's food with Fish Oil. Recommended dosages vary, and the capsules are available over-the-counter at groceries and drug stores.





by Vikky Warner

Dear Opie.....

My cat seems healthy and it's so hard to get him to the vet! Do I need to take him in every year?



In our last issue of Dear Opie we touched upon the fact that veterinarians are noticing a downward trend in the numbers of cats that come in for yearly exams. The numbers are alarming! Meanwhile, the occurrence of preventable diseases in cats is INCREASING! This is largely because cats are not coming in for their yearly exam. When pet owners don't bring their pets in for regular exams, they miss the chance to have a veterinarian spot something like diabetes or kidney failure—invisible conditions that have serious consequences if left untreated. These pet owners also miss the opportunity to learn how to take better care of their pets at home—for example, feeding the best kind of diet and keeping the pet on a parasite prevention program. If your cat is an indoor pet, it is less likely to be hit by a car or involved in a fight, but it's just as likely to get cancer, diabetes, kidney disease, or another serious ailment. Yearly exams can help



identify these illnesses. Our mission is to provide your pet with the best in care. Please, call us for an appointment, we want to help you enjoy many long happy years with your feline friend.

FRIEND US ON FACEBOOK

Magrane Pet Medical Center prides itself in staying current with the most up-to-date medicine available for your pet. When it comes to social networking, we want to do the same. However, we can't do this without your help. Please search for and friend Magrane Pet Medical Center on Facebook today and begin networking with our clients and staff. It is a fun way to share stories, pictures, and information with people who have something in common—a unique bond with their pets!



CAT GROOMING AT MAGRANE

Due to popular request, Magrane Pet Medical Center is offering cat grooming. Needed most by long-haired cats, the grooming will include removal of matted hair and shaving to restore a balanced appearance to your pet. Other options include bathing, shaving cats to resemble lions or teddy bears, nail trims, and banishing fleas. For highly nervous cats, we offer mild sedation to make the experience more pleasant for everyone.

Give us a call to schedule your cat's beauty treatment!



If you have a short story about your cat that you would like to share with us, please email it to stezich1@yahoo.com or bring it in to Magrane Pet Medical Center. We would also like a photo to go along with the story. We will make an effort to publish all of the entries submitted. Thank you!