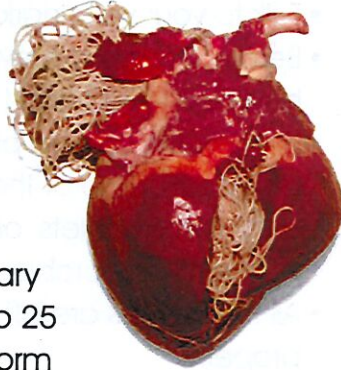


What is the Risk in New Jersey

- Heartworm is a potential threat in every state in the U.S..
- Every year in New Jersey, the average veterinary clinic reports 6 to 25 cases of heartworm (that is roughly 12,000 cases a year in the state of New Jersey alone!).
- All dogs, regardless of age, sex, or living environment are susceptible to heartworm infection.
- Indoor and outdoor cats are also at risk for the disease.



Prevent Heartworm



Heartworm can be deadly. Treatment is expensive. Prevention is easy and 100% effective. Talk to your Veterinarian.

Things you can do!

Dogs and cats get heartworm from mosquitoes. You can reduce the chances of your dog or cat being bitten by mosquitoes by taking away the places in your yard where mosquitoes breed. Mosquitoes need a source of standing water for about one week to develop from eggs to adults.



Eliminate unnecessary sources of standing water.

Change the water in desirable containers weekly.

Check your yard each week, especially after rain, for standing water to help to keep mosquitoes from using your yard as a breeding ground and biting your family and pets.



Monmouth County Mosquito Control Division
1901 Wayside Road
Tinton Falls, NJ 07724
Phone: 732-542-3630
www.visitmonmouth.com/mosquito

Information obtained from the American Heartworm Society.

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Serena Di Maso, liaison to Monmouth County Mosquito Control Division.

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Heartworm

Prevention is easy and
100% effective
Treatment is expensive
and risky

Choose
Prevention!



Heartworm prevention is the easiest and most important thing you can do for your pet!



The facts about Heartworm

Heartworms can only be transmitted from animal to animal by MOSQUITOES. When a mosquito bites an infected animal, it picks up the young heartworms. The mosquito can pass the worm to your pet the next time the mosquito feeds on blood.

Inside your pet, the young worms mature into adult worms within 6 months. During this time, your pet may show no signs of illness. The worms migrate through the body and will reach the blood vessels and lungs.

Heartworms damage the heart and blood vessels, resulting in severe heart and lung disease.



Dump water from places where mosquito larvae live like:

- Buckets
- Old tires
- Children's pools and toys
- Watering cans
- Flower pots and saucers
- Plastic tarps
- Birdbaths
- Rain gutters & flexible extensions
- Anywhere water lasts for a week or more



Prevention

- **Prevention:** a method of preventing a disease from occurring.
- Talk to your veterinarian.
- Before starting a preventative treatment, have your pet tested for heartworm.
- Heartworm can be prevented in cats and dogs using one of the following:
 - Monthly tablets, ointments or a six month injectable
- All treatments are effective when used properly.

Diagnosis

- **Diagnosis:** a method to detect disease.
- A veterinarian is the only person qualified to give a proper diagnosis.
- When a pet becomes infected, it may show no signs of illness until the worms mature.

Symptoms may include coughing, fatigue, loss of appetite, and difficulty breathing.

Treatment

- **Treatment:** a method of removing disease.
- **DOGS:** There are high risks associated with heartworm treatments. Treatment requires multiple arsenic based injections over a 4 to 6 month period.
- **CATS:** There is no approved method of treatment for heartworm in cats. Surgical removal is high risk and reserved for severe cases.