



Flea Outbreak Alert!

Treatment & Prevention of Fleas in Your Pet

We are currently seeing a marked increase in the number of fleas affecting pets in this area. Stop them from becoming a problem in your home.

It is vital to stop the flea life cycle as the female flea can lay 50 eggs per day. Young adult fleas in cocoons can take up to 6 months to emerge.

This means that if a single flea treatment is missed, you may have problems in your home for up to 6 months.



How do I spot fleas?

Look for fleas by parting the coat near the tail base. If no live fleas can be seen, sometimes flea droppings are visible (small black specks). It is important to remember that in a lot of dogs and cats with flea allergies we may never see evidence of fleas due to the small numbers present, even though they can be causing problems.

How Do I Treat a Flea Infestation?



1) Treat ALL dogs and cats in your household:

- Topical flea products – *Advantage* or *Revolution* may be used fortnightly instead of monthly during flea infestations. In DOGS ONLY, *Advantix* can be used fortnightly instead of *Advantage* in tick season. Avoid cheap supermarket brands due to their unreliability and possible side effects.
- Flea tablets – *Comfortis* is a monthly chewable tablet for dogs and cats. These are effective for pets that dislike topical applications, swim or are bathed regularly. *NexGard* is a monthly chewable tablet and *Bravecto* is a three monthly chewable tablet for flea and tick control and is advised for DOGS ONLY in tick prone areas.

2) Treat your home:

- Wash your pet's bedding in hot water (> 60 °C) for 30 minutes
- Use an insecticidal surface spray such as Mortein "Flying and Crawling Insects" on all flooring where fleas may be an issue or use flea bombs
- Vacuum pet areas twice a week
- Use Fleatrol Plus spray in pet areas

Signs of Flea Allergy

- Scratching, biting or grooming excessively, especially around the tail base
- Loss of hair towards the back end (where they can reach)
- Twitching or agitation

It is important to remember that pets with flea allergy may have no visible signs of fleas. One flea bite every 10 days will keep these pets itchy.

Your pet should be seen by a vet if there are any flea allergy signs.
Please call us on **9498 3000** for more information.