

# Heartworm and Your Pets



Keep everyone in your family safe from mosquitoes, including your pets. Mosquitoes are more than a nuisance – they can be deadly.



It only takes **1 bite** to spread Heartworm disease to your pets, a potentially life-threatening parasite carried by an infected mosquito.

Preventing mosquito bites is key. The Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District offers the following tips:

- ♥ Ensure your pet is on heartworm preventative medication year-round.
- ♥ Use tick and flea repellents that also protect against mosquitoes. **DO NOT** use human insect repellent.
- ♥ Make sure doors and windows have well-fitting screens and are in good repair to keep mosquitoes out.

Eliminating mosquito breeding sources from your property is critical to keep mosquitoes away from you and your pets, follow these tips:

- ♥ Tip and drain any standing water at least once a week.
- ♥ Clean and scrub the interior of pet water bowls weekly to eliminate mosquito eggs.
- ♥ Toss or store unneeded containers.
- ♥ Turn over or cover open buckets, trash cans, and recycling bins.

**Heartworm disease affects the heart and lungs of dogs and cats. Speak to your veterinarian for more information.**

[www.glacvcd.org](http://www.glacvcd.org)

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