

Register Now for the 2013 ISVMA Annual Convention and Save!



Please plan to join us for the 131st ISVMA Annual Convention on November 15-17, 2013 at the Westin Lombard Yorktown Center Hotel.

We have a great program planned with outstanding speakers and wet lab opportunities. A copy of the [convention brochure](#) can be downloaded from this website. [Online registration](#) is also available.

The program provides registrants with up to 18.5 hours of continuing education.

You Have a Great Chance to Win Two Valuable Pieces of Equipment for Your Practice!

Midmark has generously donated two pieces of veterinary equipment for a raffle to support the Ovarian Cancer Symptom Awareness organization's golf outing/fundraiser on September 30, 2013.

You could win a Cardell 9500HD monitor with CO2 (retail \$6645) or a VetPro 1000 dental unit (retail \$7848) just by purchasing raffle tickets at: <http://ovariancancersymptomawareness.givezooks.com/events/ocsa-golf-outing-veterinary-equipment-affle>.

The tickets are \$100 each or \$250 for 3 tickets. These are two great pieces of equipment for any practice and you can buy your chances to win for a small investment. The winner need not be present to win. The winner will be drawn on September 30th.

[Click here](#) or more information.

Wet Labs Offered at the 2013 ISVMA Annual Convention

The ISVMA has nine outstanding wet labs planned for veterinarians and veterinary technicians. These labs are offered at a significant discount compared to large regional and national meetings. [Sign up early](#) to make sure you get a slot!

- Ear Surgery (M. Joseph Bojrab DVM, MS, PhD)

This wet lab will cover surgery of the ear including total ear canal ablation, modified ear canal ablation and ventral bulla osteotomy. A discussion of the procedures will precede a "hands-on" lab where each registrant will get a chance to perform the procedures on cadaver dogs.

- Wound Management for Veterinary Technicians (Gina Falish, CVT)

This interactive lab will give case-based scenarios involving several types of wounds that will allow participants to discuss closure types and bandaging options based on type, factors, classification and wound care necessary. The participants will have the opportunity to apply bandages using animal mannequins.

- Surgical Solutions: Fundamental Soft Tissue Surgeries in Dogs and Cats (M. Joseph Bojrab DVM, MS, PhD)

Learn the basics or tweak your techniques for some of the most frequently needed soft tissue surgeries in veterinary patients: urethrostomy in cats and dogs, cystotomy, anal saccullectomy, reconstruction of large skin defects in cats and dogs, procedures to correct upper airway disease in brachycephalic breeds, inguinal and diaphragmatic hernia repair, and various organ biopsies. The lecture will review all the facts you need to succeed in performing these procedures; the wetlab will provide hands-on training, learn tips, and practice performing these procedures.

- Hematology - Blood Smears and Introduction to Blood Cells (Beth Armstrong CVT)

Some animals may show up in your practice and leave you and your veterinarian puzzled. As a technician it is your job to help look at every aspect, big and small, to help solve the puzzle. You will learn how to make a perfect blood smear, as well as identify different types of cells, and changes of these cells and what that means. In this series of wet labs, you will see how one drop of blood can be so important in a diagnosis for your patient. Part I will include: How to make a perfect blood smear, white blood cells, red blood cells, and platelets.

- Hematology - Evaluation of Blood Smears (Beth Armstrong CVT)

A continuation of the early morning wet lab, Part II will cover evaluation of blood smears including: practice making blood smears, evaluation of cells and interpretation of results.

- Hematology - Emergency and Critical Care Procedures - Long Term Catheter Placement (Beth Armstrong CVT)

Part III of this wet lab will cover: jugular catheters, PICC lines, a discussion of CVP, male urinary catheter, female urinary catheter, naso-gastric tube, and esophageal tube.

- Beginner Cardiac Ultrasound Wet Lab (Christopher Stauthammer DVM, DACVIM)

This wet lab is designed to be an introduction to cardiac ultrasound and will provide plenty of hands-on experience for those wanting to learn this useful skill.

- Intermediate Cardiac Ultrasound (Christopher Stauthammer DVM, DACVIM)

This wet lab is designed for those clinicians looking to improve their cardiac ultrasound skills by providing plenty of hands-on experience.

- Dental Radiographic Positioning and Techniques (Stephen Juriga DVM, DAVDC)

This wet lab will be small groups with hands-on use of digital veterinary equipment to achieve high quality diagnostic images of teeth and subgingival tissues. This will include the principles of positioning using parallel and bisecting angle techniques. Attendees will learn a systematic approach to full mouth radiographs as well as advanced techniques for feline and canine patients. Attendees will receive: laminated full mouth feline and canine series, dental radiographic technique chart, and Radiographic Guide to Common Oral Pathology.

Resisting Heartworm Prevention - A small number of heartworms resistant to prophylaxis

Nearly all dogs given heartworm prophylaxis are protected, but two parasite experts indicate they have seen compelling evidence that some heartworms are resistant to prophylaxis. Read this important new article in [JAVMA News](#).

ISVMA Board of Directors Discusses the Importance of Filing Complaints for Violations

At their September 25, 2013 meeting at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, the ISVMA Board of Directors discussed the need for veterinary professionals to file complaints with the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) when they are aware of violations of the Illinois Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act or any other professional licensing act.

The ISVMA has placed convenient [links to the IDFPR complaint forms](#) on the Home Page of its website. If you know about a person diagnosing, performing surgery, offering prescription advice or

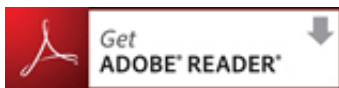
treating an animal in such a way that it can cause harm, please take a few minutes to let the State's enforcement agency know!

Complaints against any individual or entity regulated by the Division of Professional Regulation may be filed by contacting the Complaint Intake Unit. There are two methods of filing:

- 1) Division of Professional Regulation Online Complaint Form
- 2) Division of Professional Regulation Print and Fill In Complaint Form

The printed form should be mailed to:

Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
Division of Professional Regulation
Complaint Intake Unit
100 West Randolph Street, Suite 9-300
Chicago, IL 60601



Acrobat Reader X is necessary to access PDF documents. Click on the "Get Adobe Reader" icon to the left to download the product for free.

Maintaining Healthy Weight in Pets

Keeping your pets at a healthy weight is one of the most important and effective ways to reduce long-term health care costs and prevent a number of health problems. The AVMA has a brochure with great advice on getting your pet to - and maintaining - a healthy weight. <http://bit.ly/1arkuWo>. It's also available in Spanish at <http://bit.ly/16BWcF3>.

Pet Marijuana Intoxication on the Rise - Recent Passage of Medical Marijuana Legislation in Illinois Makes Awareness Important

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (Sept. 11, 2013) – On the heels of the legalization of marijuana for recreational use in Colorado and Washington, last week the Justice Department effectively announced it won't challenge other states' attempts to legalize the drug for medical or recreational use. While marijuana is still classified as illegal, eight new federal enforcement priorities were issued that essentially discourage federal prosecutors from pursuing non-violent marijuana users and focusing efforts on marijuana sales linked to criminal activity. Many believe these policy changes lay the groundwork for more states to legalize marijuana, especially for medicinal use in humans. Meanwhile, debates about whether or not medical marijuana is beneficial for ailing pets are becoming more frequent. While the jury remains out regarding the benefits of medical marijuana for pets, recent news coverage and an increase in the number of pets being treated for accidental marijuana poisonings are raising questions about the safety of marijuana, especially in dogs.

A veterinary study from Colorado published recently by the Journal of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care reported a four-fold increase in the number of dogs treated for marijuana intoxication between 2005 and 2010, following the legalization of medical marijuana in that state. Similarly, over the past five years Pet Poison Helpline has experienced a 200 percent increase in the number of cases for pets that have ingested marijuana.

"The trend we've seen in recent years involving pets and marijuana is significant," said Ahna Brutlag, DVM, MS, DABT, DABVT and associate director of veterinary services at Pet Poison Helpline. "Of all illicit drugs, marijuana has always been responsible for the most calls to Pet Poison Helpline, but this recent increase is the sharpest we have ever seen."

In an effort to help pet owners and veterinarians better understand how marijuana affects pets, the veterinary and toxicology experts at Pet Poison Helpline provide these answers to some of the more frequently asked questions.

Q. Can pets die from marijuana poisoning?

A. Yes, but thankfully this is rare. Speaking in terms of drugs, marijuana has a “wide margin of safety,” meaning that the lethal dose is extremely high as compared to the lower dose necessary to result in therapeutic effect (or in this case, toxic effect). Therefore, it’s extremely rare for pets to ingest enough marijuana to cause death, although they may still need medical treatment to recover from poisoning. In the recent Colorado study, two small dogs died, both of which had ingested baked goods made with highly concentrated medical grade marijuana butter. Over the past five years, no marijuana-related deaths in pets have been reported to Pet Poison Helpline.

Q. How do pets get exposed?

A. Poisoning in pets can occur following inhalation of the smoke, ingestion of the dried plant, ingestion of foods laced with marijuana (e.g., brownies, cookies, butter), or products made with hashish. Most commonly, dogs eat the dried plant directly from their owner’s stash, or eat foods made to contain marijuana. When those foods also contain chocolate, the risk of additional poisoning is increased.

Q. What are the signs of marijuana poisoning in pets?

A. Signs of marijuana poisoning in dogs and cats include glassy-eyes, stumbling/incoordination, dilated pupils, vomiting, coma, and in about 25 percent of dogs, agitation and excitement. Urinary incontinence or urine dribbling is also very common, especially in dogs. Serious effects include changes in heart rate, coma, tremors, and seizures. The signs typically begin 30 to 60 minutes after ingestion, or sooner if inhaled.

Q. What are the treatments for marijuana poisoning?

A. Treatment for marijuana poisoning includes IV fluids, anti-vomiting medication, oxygen, blood pressure monitoring, thermoregulation, and in severe cases, ventilator/respirator support. Decontamination (including inducing vomiting and giving charcoal to bind up the poison) may be performed if the ingestion was recent or large, but should never be done without consulting a veterinarian or Pet Poison Helpline. However, inducing vomiting may be difficult due to the properties of marijuana. It can take pets 18 to 36 hours to recover.

Q. Can my veterinarian use an over-the-counter drug test (for humans) to test if my dog was poisoned with marijuana?

A. Over-the-counter human urine drug screening tests have been used to help diagnose dogs with marijuana exposure; however, the success rate is highly inconsistent and false negatives occur. With these drug screening tests, a positive THC result is consistent with marijuana poisoning, while a negative result does not conclusively rule out poisoning.

Q. Will Pet Poison Helpline report pet owners to the police if his/her dog ingests marijuana?

A. No. The veterinary staff at Pet Poison Helpline is primarily concerned about the wellbeing of the pet. They ask only that pet owners are truthful and communicate exactly what the pet was exposed to, so they can quickly identify the poisoning and treat it as soon as possible.

The veterinary and toxicology experts at Pet Poison Helpline recommend that pet owners take immediate action if a pet is exposed to marijuana by contacting either their veterinarian or Pet Poison Helpline at 1-800-213-6680. Pet Poison Helpline is the most cost-effective animal poison control center in North America charging only \$39 per case, including unlimited follow-up consultations. Pet Poison Helpline also has an iPhone application called Pet Poison Help. This app includes an extensive database of over 200 poisons (with photos) dangerous to cats and dogs and is

available on iTunes for \$1.99.

About Pet Poison Helpline

Pet Poison Helpline, an animal poison control center based out of Minneapolis, is available 24 hours, seven days a week for pet owners and veterinary professionals that require assistance treating a potentially poisoned pet. The staff provides treatment advice for poisoning cases of all species, including dogs, cats, birds, small mammals, large animals and exotic species. As the most cost-effective option for animal poison control care, Pet Poison Helpline's fee of \$39 per incident includes follow-up consultation for the duration of the poison case. Pet Poison Helpline is available in North America by calling 800-213-6680. Additional information can be found online at www.petpoisonhelpline.com.

Recent Pet Food/Product Recalls

It is difficult to keep up with the number of pet food and product recalls. Fortunately, the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) maintains a [list of current pet food and product recalls/alerts](#) on their website. Make sure to Bookmark this page and check it frequently to stay on top of recalls that can affect your pet patients.

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Do You Have an Associate and/or CVT That Is Not an ISVMA Member?

ISVMA membership continues to grow and we set new membership records every year. We want all veterinarians and CVTs to join 3000 of their colleagues and become an ISVMA member today! Please encourage your colleagues to take a moment and fill out the [online membership application](#) and pay your dues with your VISA or MasterCard.

Do you know about ISVMA's tremendous success lobbying state government on your behalf? Have you seen the new Epitome magazine that is mailed to every DVM and CVT member? Have you participated in ISVMA's high quality, affordable and accessible CE programs? Has your practice saved money through one of our sponsored benefit programs?

Your support and participation are greatly appreciated. If you know a colleague or associate that is not a member of ISVMA, please encourage them to join also! Some of the benefits of membership are listed on the [ISVMA website](#).

About the Photo

Fall migration is peaking and, if you go out into a wooded area this weekend, you are likely to see gleaning bouquets of warblers. They will be high in the trees, eating insects and fueling their bodies for a migration of thousands of miles. One of the most abundant warblers right now is the [Black-throated Green Warbler](#) (*Setophaga virens*).

An abundant breeder of the northeastern coniferous forests, the Black-throated Green Warbler is 12 cm long and weighs 9 g, and has an olive-green crown, a yellow face with olive markings, a thin pointed bill, white wing bars, an olive-green back and pale underparts with black streaks on the flanks. Adult males have a black throat and upper breast; females have a pale throat and black markings on their breast.

The Black-throated Green Warbler breeds from eastern British Columbia, Ontario, and Newfoundland south to Minnesota, Ohio, northern New Jersey, and along the Appalachian Mountains to Georgia. It spends winters from Florida and Texas south into eastern Mexico and the Caribbean. The species preferred habitats include open stands of hemlock or pine.

I photographed this female Black-throated Green Warbler near Rochester, IL.

Contact Us

Please feel free to forward this issue of the E-SOURCE to veterinarians that are not receiving ISVMA's electronic newsletter. Any ISVMA member may subscribe to the E-SOURCE for free.

If you wish to add your name to the recipient list, send an e-mail to info@isvma.org and ask to receive the E-SOURCE newsletter.

ISVMA values your membership and does not want to send you any unwanted email. If you would like to be removed from this member service, please email info@isvma.org.