



**Root River
Veterinary Center**

SMALL ANIMAL EDITION

Fall 2011

“Where Your Pets Are Family”

Dear Clients,

Dr. Tom and Dr. Linda started this veterinary practice in 1981. Veterinary medicine has changed since that time, and so have they. Their practice is now entering a new period of change. Dr. Sautter is having problems with arthritis, so we have closed the large animal portion of the practice. We are now focusing all of our attention on dogs and cats at this facility. We are the only exclusively small animal practice in Fillmore County.

Dr. Sifford has spent the past year completing five courses in veterinary acupuncture. Our practice is now the place where “Western Veterinary Medicine can be blended with Eastern Veterinary Medicine”. This is a unique place to bring your pet!

We believe that you are the leader of your pet’s health care team. When we see your pet, we will try to give you several treatment options and let you decide what type of medical care that you want for your pet. We look forward to being “your other family doctor” for many years to come.

Doctors and Staff
Root River Veterinary Center

Root River Veterinary Center
Office Hours
Monday – Friday
8am-5pm
Phone: 765-2117
www.RootRiverVetCenter.com

**After Hours Emergency Care Provided by
Affiliated Emergency Veterinary Service**
507-424-3976
Rochester, MN

Animal Acupuncture is Now Available

Over the past year Dr. Sifford has spent thousands of hours learning the ancient art of acupuncture at the Chi Institute in Reddick, FL. She has successfully completed the basic acupuncture courses and has used her new found skills to help relieve the pain of many pets.

Acupuncture has been practiced in both animals and humans for thousands of years in China. The purpose of acupuncture is to insert tiny needles under the skin to stimulate different points in the body. Acupuncture releases beta-endorphins which often relieves pain. In addition, stimulation of acupuncture points allows energy in the body to flow freely which can make a pet feel better.

Most cats and dogs enjoy their acupuncture treatment. We are confident that acupuncture combined with other drugs and therapies can help alleviate your pet’s pain and illnesses. If you don’t believe us, please ask to see our pictures of cats and dogs enjoying acupuncture.

We frequently combine acupuncture therapy with animal chiropractic adjustments and cold laser therapy to give your pet a “total spa day” here at our clinic.

Acupuncture is safe, virtually pain free, and can make a real improvement in the way your pet feels and moves. We are excited to be one of the few clinics in Southeast Minnesota to have the training and knowledge to offer this service to your pet.

Please call us at 507-765-2117 to schedule an appointment for your pet (sorry we can’t treat you) or if you have any questions about how acupuncture might benefit your cat or dog.

“Share the Care” Rewards

Have you heard about our “Share the Care” Program? Each time a new client mentions that you have referred them to our clinic; we will send you a \$10.00 gift certificate. Thank you for telling your friends about the care that we provide at the RRVC.

Why should I have my dog or cat neutered?

Because male dogs and cats cannot have puppies and kittens, many people don't believe that it is necessary to neuter them. However, neutering has many health benefits and we highly recommend it for all pets that are not used for breeding.

Surgical neutering reduces the risk of prostate cancer and eliminates the risk of testicular cancer. Neutering also decreases sexual desires, which can decrease a pet's urges to roam and be aggressive.

Unneutered cats can be difficult to live with. They often spray urine around your home in an attempt to mark their territory. Tom cats like to fight with other cats which can lead to serious bite wounds and abscesses. Infectious diseases like Feline Leukemia and FIV are also spread by fighting cats.

We recommend neutering your pet at 5 to 6 months of age before the onset of puberty. Blood work is recommended before any surgical procedure, including a neuter. Call our office today at 507-765-2117 if you have questions or to schedule an appointment.

My dog or cat always has fleas. What can I do?

Successful flea control must include both controlling the fleas on your pets and eliminating fleas from your environment.

Dogs and cats share the same fleas, so it is important that all of the pets in your house be given preventative even if they don't go outdoors. Fleas must bite your pet for products like *Frontline* to work. Even if you use *Frontline*, you may still see a few fleas on your pet until they have all been eliminated from your environment.

Understanding the flea's lifecycle will help you understand how to control fleas in your home.

- Flea eggs are laid by adult fleas on your pet's skin but they fall off of your pet before they hatch.
- Flea larvae hatch from the eggs and they like to hide in your house and in the grass. Flea larvae prefer warmth, so can live in your home all year long.
- Flea larvae develop into pupae. They form a protective cocoon around them until they become adult fleas. Pupae can survive in their cocoons for up to 9 months & they are not killed by most insecticides.
- Once the adult fleas emerge from the pupae, they find your pet and feed on his or her blood before beginning their reproductive cycle again.

Successful flea control often involves a combination of washing, vacuuming, and applying insecticides in your home and/or pet. Each situation is unique, so call us to get help with flea control before winter.



**Complimentary
Pet & Family Christmas Pictures
Monday November 28th
From 4:00pm to 7:00pm
Please call for an appointment
At the Root River Vet Center
Photos will be e-mailed to you.**



What is spaying and why is it good for my pet?

A spay involves the surgical removal of both ovaries and the uterus in order to sterilize a female dog or cat.

There are many benefits to spaying your pets. First of all, it eliminates unwanted behaviors and vaginal bleeding associated with the heat cycle. It also reduces the risk of mammary (breast) cancer and prevents the development of uterine infections.

It is important to realize that a spay is a major surgical procedure that requires a full general anesthetic. We highly recommend blood work prior to surgery to ensure that your pet is healthy enough to handle the anesthesia and surgery.

It is important to know that obesity is a result of overfeeding and lack of physical activity and is NOT associated with spaying your pet.

We recommend that all female dogs and cats that are to be kept as pets be spayed at 5 to 6 months of age before their first heat cycle. The benefits of spaying far out weigh any disadvantages, and you will be doing your part to help control the pet population. Call our office today at 765-2117 to schedule an appointment.

Effective December 1, 2011

*Our office will not be open on Saturdays.
If your pet has an emergency
or you have questions after business hours*

**Please contact:
Affiliated Emergency Services
in Rochester, MN at 507-424-3976**

Adjusting Animals Alleviates Pet's Pain

Our veterinarians have been adjusting animals at Root River Veterinary Center for over a dozen years. Pet owners are constantly amazed at the relief that their animals receive when their pet's pain is reduced by spinal manipulation.

At Root River Veterinary Center, we embrace a combination of traditional medicine and alternative care. Animal adjustment is similar to human chiropractic care. It is a safe, fast, and effective method for treating many forms of disease in pets such as back, neck, and limb pain. Animal adjusting relies on finding and correcting neuronal imbalances in your pet's spine. It is not painful and most pets experience a euphoric feeling after adjustments.

We have many cats and dogs that "let their owners know" that they need an adjustment. These pets have improved the quality of their life by allowing us to treat them on a regular basis. Please call us at 507-765-2117 to discuss whether your cat or dog is a good candidate for animal adjustments.

What can chiropractic
do for your
pet?



Complimentary Christmas Pictures of Your Family & Pets
November 28th from 4pm-7pm
At Root River Veterinary Center P.A.
Please Call 507-765-2117 to Schedule an Appointment Time

\$20.00 OFF
Cat & Dog Spays or Neuters
Only one coupon per animal please
Expires December 30, 2011
Please present coupon to receive discount

\$15.00 OFF
First Time Animal Acupuncture Treatment
Expires December 30, 2011
Please call for an appointment - Present coupon to receive discount



212 St. Anthony Street South
Preston, Minnesota 55965

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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**Serving pets in Fillmore County
for over 30 years**