

# Spring 2026

Mixed Animal Care - Large, Small & Exotics



## Welcome to spring at Rocky Rapids Vet Clinic

Spring is finally here, and with warmer weather comes a new season of activity for our animals. This time of year brings everything from increased parasite concerns, to pets to calving and pasture preparation for livestock.

Our goal is to always help keep your animals healthy year round. In this issue we are sharing a few important reminders and tips for small animals, large animals, and exotic pets to help you start the season off right.

As always, thank you for trusting Rocky Rapids Vet Clinic with the care of your animals.



## Spring Parasite Prevention

As temperatures begin to rise, parasites become active again. Fleas, ticks and internal parasites can pose serious health risks to pets and livestock if they are not properly managed.

For dogs and cats:

- Fleas and ticks become active once temperatures rise above freezing.
- Regular parasite prevention protects both your pet and your household.

For livestock:

- Spring is a common time to review deworming plans.
- Pasture contamination can increase parasite exposure.
- Strategic parasite control helps maintain herd health and productivity.

If you're unsure which parasite prevention products are best for your animals, our team is happy to help create a plan tailored to your pets or herd.



Rockyrapidsvet.com



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# Small Animal Corner



## Fleas & ticks

These parasites become active as the weather warms up. Prevention is the best way to protect your pets from irritation and disease.



## Seasonal Allergies

Just like people, pets can develop allergies to pollen, grass, and environmental allergens. Signs may include itching, licking paws or ear infections.



## Vaccination Checkups

Spring is a great time to schedule annual exams and make sure vaccinations are up to date before spending more time outdoors or travelling.

## Spring Cat Care

Spring is a common time for increased cat activity and breeding behaviours. Spaying and neutering can help prevent unwanted litters and reduce roaming or marking.

# Exotic Animal Care

Exotic pets have unique care needs, and seasonal changes can impact their health just like other animals.



## Reptiles & Amphibians

They are "Ectotherms" and so their environment is critical to their body functions.

## Birds

Stagnation and high fat seeds (like sunflower seeds) can easily lead to obesity and even heart attacks

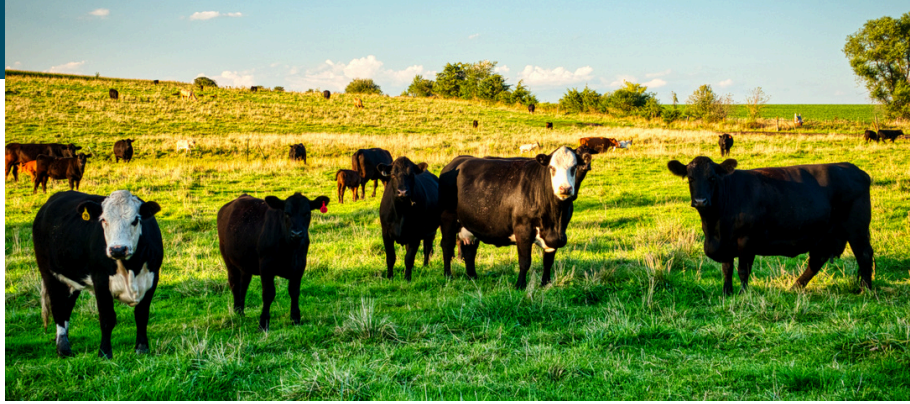
## Bunnies

They should always be eating, specifically a good quality hay!

## Rodents

It is very important to allow them to be nocturnal if they are a nocturnal species (most are)

# Large Animal / Herd Health



Spring is a busy season for producers, and proactive herd management can make a difference in overall animal health.



## Calving Season

This time of year is one of the busiest for our team. Our veterinarians are spending long hours in clinic and in the field assisting with difficult deliveries, C-sections, prolapses, and newborn calf care!

## When to call during calving

- Lack of progress after labour begins
- The water bag appears, but no progress follows
- Concerns about calf positioning
- Cow seems tired or stops actively trying
- You're unsure what you are seeing
- Any prolapse observed before or after calving



If You have any questions about herd health programs, vaccinations, or parasite control, our team is happy to assist.

# Clinic Updates



We're happy to offer extended hours on Thursdays to better accommodate our clients

**Thursday Hours**  
**8:30 AM - 7:30 PM**

If evenings work better for your schedule, feel free to book your appointments on Thursdays.

## After-Hours Emergency Care

If your animal experiences an emergency outside of regular clinic hours, please call the clinic as usual. You call will be directed to our after-hours triage service, who will help determine if immediate veterinary care is needed.

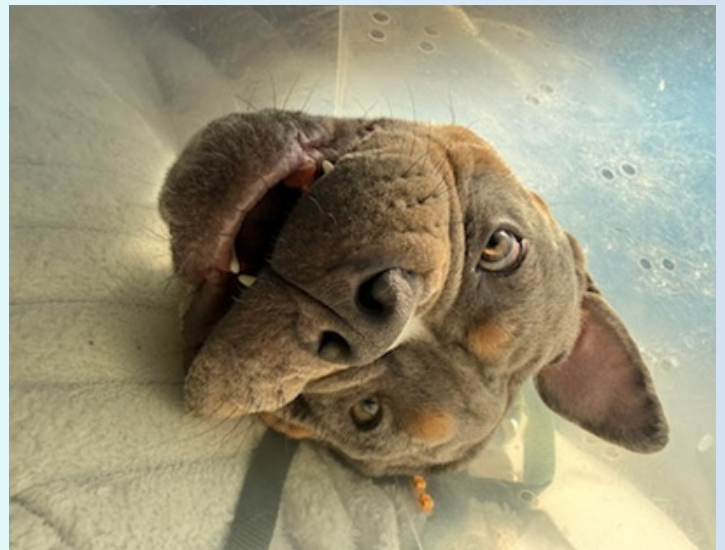
Welcome Lacey!!!



We're happy to have Lacey join our team as one of our receptionists. She will be one of the friendly faces greeting you at the front desk and helping with your appointment bookings!

## Pet of the Quarter

### Meet Theo!!



Theo was recently in to see us for not one, but two procedures, a neuter and a foreign body surgery. He handled it all like a champ!

Check out our social media for the full story!



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