

Morrisville Cat Hospital Newsletter



January 2026 - 168th Edition

Greetings!,

Happy New Year!

Announcements:

A Note About New Client Appointments

At Morrisville Cat Hospital, our top priority is providing the very best care to our patients and their families. To ensure we continue providing the same attentive care and exceptional service to our current patients, we are accepting new clients on a waiting list basis.

Thank you for your understanding and for being such an important part of the MCH family.



Cats Claim Record Share of Veterinary Visits as Feline Market Momentum Builds

CATalyst Council

Cats now account for a record share of veterinary visits, signaling a major shift in pet care trends. Recent data shows feline appointments rising despite overall declines. Experts say this momentum could redefine companion-animal medicine.

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To Supplement or Not to Supplement, that is the Question

Veterinary Practice News

Pet caregivers often wonder if supplements like vitamins or probiotics are necessary. With new products constantly emerging, even veterinarians find it challenging to keep up. Experts stress evaluating diets and understanding what supplements truly offer before making decisions.

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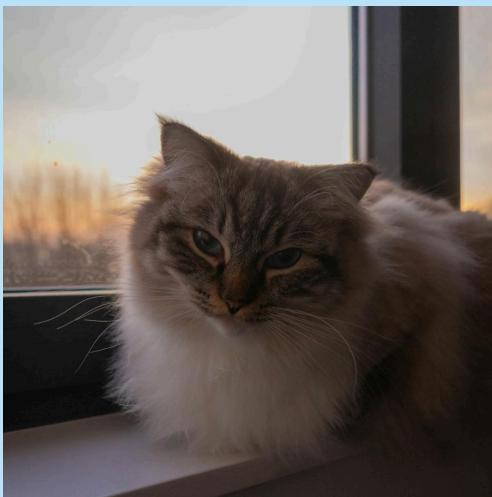
Is Lavender Essential Oil Safe for Cats?

Kinship

Lavender oil is widely used for relaxation in humans, but it poses risks for cats. Compounds in the oil can't be processed by feline livers, leading to potential toxicity. Experts urge pet caregivers to seek safer calming alternatives.



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Do Cats Make Friends with Other Cats? Vet-reviewed Feline Social Behavior

Catster

Introducing cats to each other can be slow and complex. While some cats bond quickly, others may take months or never connect. Personality, socialization, and careful introductions largely determine whether feline friendships form.

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New Guidelines for Feline Oral Health and Dental Care are Released

dvm360

The FelineVMA has released comprehensive 2025 guidelines for feline oral health and dental care. Experts say oral diseases in cats are common yet often overlooked. The resource offers evidence-based recommendations to improve diagnosis and treatment in veterinary practice.



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Screening Cats for Osteoarthritis: How the Feline OA Checklist Can Transform Practice

Vet Candy

A new study shows osteoarthritis (OA) in cats is often missed during standard exams. Researchers found structured screening dramatically increased detection rates. The findings suggest a simple checklist could transform feline care and improve pain management outcomes.

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Where Did House Cats Come From? Ancient DNA Shakes Up Their Origin Story

CNN

Scientists are challenging long-held beliefs about when cats first lived with humans. New genetic research suggests their domestication timeline may differ from the traditional Neolithic narrative. Findings reveal surprising clues about how felines became household companions.

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Promoting Water Intake in Dehydrated Cats Clinician's Brief

Dehydration in cats often signals serious illness and typically requires IV or SC fluids. These methods work but can be stressful, costly, and hard for cat caregivers to learn. Researchers explore palatable water supplements as a simpler alternative for home care.

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8 Touching Ways Cats Say 'Thank You,' According to a Veterinarian

Parade Pets

Cats express gratitude through quiet gestures that often go unnoticed. A veterinarian explains how behaviors like blinking, kneading, and gift-giving signal trust and affection. Learning these signs can help pet caregivers strengthen their bond with their feline companions.

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A New Cat Color is Defying Genetic Expectations

Popular Mechanics

Researchers have identified a striking new cat coat pattern named salmiak. The color features black roots fading to white tips, creating a unique gradient effect. Genetic analysis revealed the shade stems from a recessive mutation, challenging previous assumptions about feline color genes.

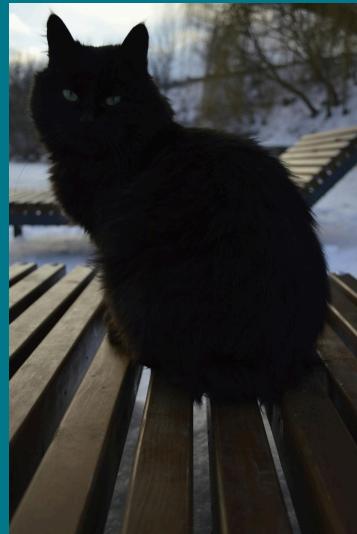
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Meows Encode Less Individual Information Than Purrs and Show Greater Variability in Domestic Than in Wild Cats

Scientific Reports

Researchers explored individuality in cats' vocalizations, comparing meows and purrs for identity cues. Findings suggest domestication increased vocal flexibility, especially in meows, while purrs remain strong markers of identity. The study also contrasts domestic cats with wild relatives to highlight acoustic differences.

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