



## LCSO ARRESTS HEARTLESS, SUB-HUMAN ANIMAL ABUSER

“Molly,” a 16-year old Golden Labrador was delivered to a local animal hospital in a condition that made even experienced veterinary staff cringe.

Severely emaciated, Molly had maggots crawling out of her rectum and genitals.

Additionally, Molly was critically dehydrated, had glassy eyes, flea infestation and curled nails exceeding one-inch in length.

Molly was unable to focus, was unable to walk and her blood pressure was so low that it was unattainable.

It was determined that the canine was suffering immensely and would not survive more than a few more hours.

Lee County deputies arrived and interviewed the owner, Jonathan Urquizo, who refused to sign euthanasia authorization.



Urquizo made statements that conflicted with veterinary observations and the dog’s condition.

Molly was placed on a law enforcement hold and humanely euthanized. Her body was turned over to Lee County Domestic

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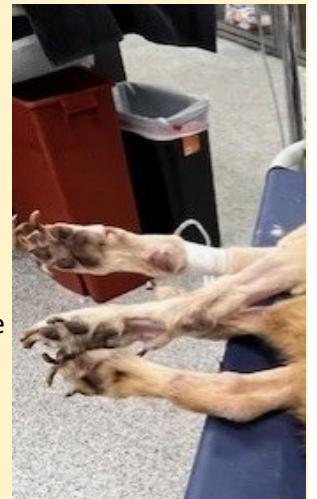
## (Molly...continued)

Animal Services for purposes of necropsy.

Based on information obtained, Jonathan Urquizo (DOB 01-16-1998) was arrested and charged with felony aggravated animal cruelty.

If convicted, Urquizo will join the other dirtbags on the Lee County Animal Abuse Registry.

Rest, Molly. You deserved better.



## PLEASE AVOID PURCHASING “BULLY/SPHYNX” CATS

These hairless felines, with short, bowed-legs, are being bred in large numbers both in the United States and in Europe.

These cats are likely to suffer very serious health issues and should not be purchased or bred.



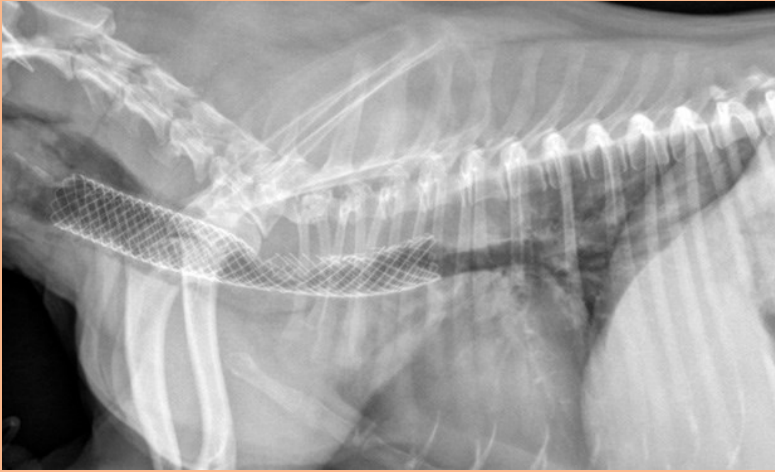
## TRACHEAL COLLAPSE IN SMALL DOGS

By Alice Jeromin, B.S. Pharmacy, DVM, DACVD

Does your small dog honk like a goose?

This can be a sign of tracheal collapse.

Tracheal (windpipe) collapse occurs when the rings that make up the inside or top of the windpipe tend to flatten. The cause is not yet understood, but we do know that the problem gets worse over time.



Most small dog pet owners first notice a cough that gets worse as time progresses.

Things that make the cough worse include hot weather, excitement, exercise, stress, and pressure on the trachea from a collar especially during walks. Other inciting factors include strong odors such as perfumes, floor cleaners, bathroom cleaners, etc.

Sometimes pressing on the throat area can bring on the cough and your veterinarian may do this as one method of diagnosis along with a chest x-ray.

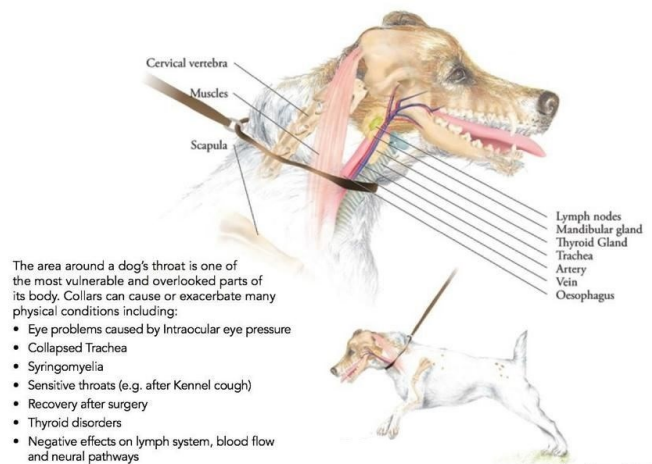
Overweight dogs seem to have more of a problem w/tracheal collapse (another reason to keep your dog from being overweight).

Some dogs may also develop a heart murmur and in severe cases, have problems breathing and may turn blue—a true emergency! Oxygen and a sedative are needed at the emergency clinic and often the dog will be placed in an oxygen cage.

Some veterinarians will prescribe an anticough medicine such as hydrocodone, or butorphanol. Other medications used for tracheal collapse include: theophylline, steroids, antibiotics and/or antianxiety drugs.

What you can do at home involves removal of any irritating inhalant chemicals, use a harness instead of a collar, do not allow extreme exercise especially in hot weather, keep the pet's weight in check, and try and reduce stressful/excitable situations such as when company comes over—try and keep the dog calm instead of getting them all excited!

If you notice your little adorable dog has a cough which may worsen upon excitement, please talk to your veterinarian about preventive measures!



## WHY IS OZZIE STILL LOOKING FOR HIS FOREVER HOME??

Three-year-old Ozzie is a longtime friend of the LCSO Animal Cruelty Task Force.

This boy is FILLED with love and affection and so deserves to share that love in a safe and welcoming home.

Ozzie is waiting patiently at the Animal Refuge Center located at 18011 Old Bayshore Road in North Fort Myers. The LCSO Animal Cruelty Task Force won't rest until this furball finds the perfect home!



### PUP CUPS AT THE LCSO ICE CREAM TRUCK

Well...the news is out.

Once the word spread...that the Lee County Sheriff's Office Ice Cream Response Team had "Pup cups" on board...things haven't been the same.



### ACTF HELPS FIND HOMES FOR CATS, KITTENS...

Haven on Earth Animal League (H.E.A.L.) brought 26 cats, all available for adoption, to the Lee County Sheriff's Office Community Outreach Center at Miromar Outlets.

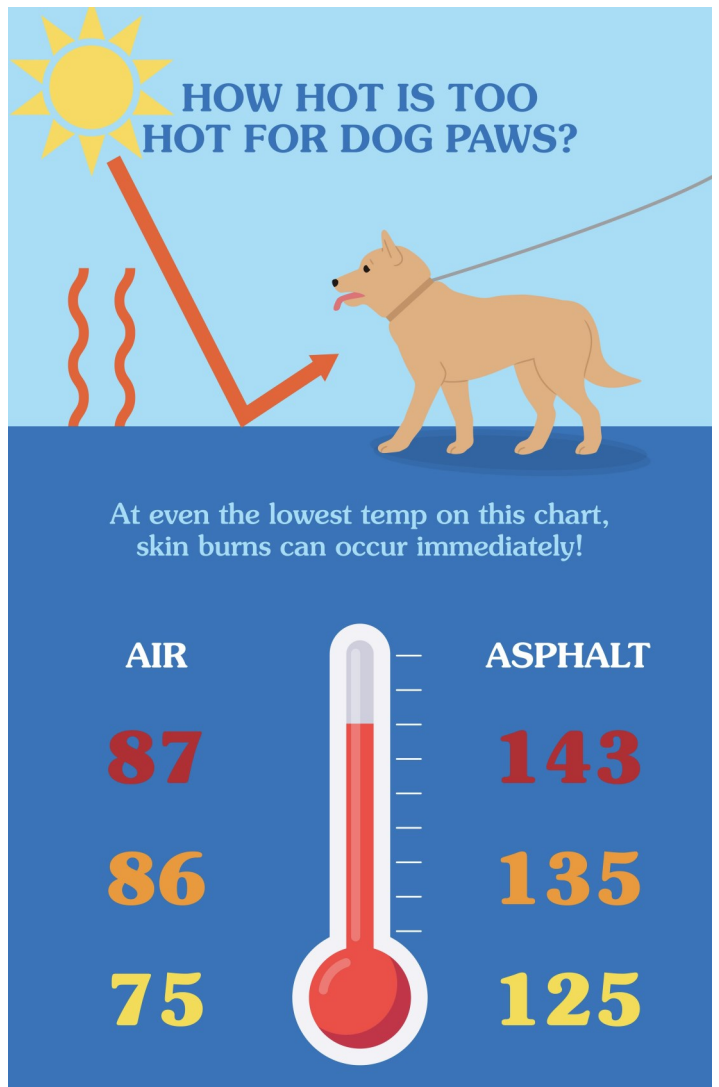


"Feline Fest" drew dozens of shoppers, tourists and retail store staff members...all eager to meet and play with the kittens and cats.

And, best of all, five cats were adopted!!



Follow the Lee County Sheriff's Office Animal Cruelty Task Force Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/LCSO.ACTF](http://www.facebook.com/LCSO.ACTF)) for information regarding upcoming pet adoption events!



### CONGRATULATIONS, BIRDIE!

A K-9 member of the Lee County Sheriff's Office Youth Services team, Birdie is now fully trained in firearms detection.

Working alongside Deputy Barrs, Birdie will work diligently to ensure the safety of Lee County students. "Birdie is amazing," said Deputy Barrs. "I had almost instant bonding with Birdie and quickly got very attached to her because we spend so much time together. I love



every single part of what I do. People just respond with joy to Birdie, and we visit multiple schools per day because the deterrent piece is needed. We hope we never find a firearm in any school, but we're proactive and it's obviously better that we find it first."

## COMMUNAL DOG BOWLS: WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

By Dr. Meghan Davis DVM

It is important that our dogs have access to water when we're out and about, especially during our southwest Florida summer months where there is a high risk of dehydration and heat stroke.

While there may be times that using a communal water bowl is unavoidable, pet owners should be aware that there may be some risks. These risks are higher for puppies, older dogs and those with compromised immune systems (long time steroid use, chemotherapy, etc).

### Intestinal parasites

Fecal contamination of a water bowl could lead to your dog becoming infected with hookworms, roundworms, Coccidia or Giardia. This is likely common at dog parks where a large number of dogs defecate and the soil may already be contaminated with these parasites. A dog stepping in a water bowl or pawing at the side of it could easily result in fecal particles entering the water. Giardia,



in particular, thrives in water.

### Leptospirosis

Lepto is a bacterial infection that affects the liver and kidneys and can be fatal (it is also transmissible to people!). The organism concentrates in standing water that has been infected by the urine of affected animals. Depending how often the bowl is cleaned and if it stays out overnight there is a chance it could have become contaminated by rodents, raccoons or opossums.

### Blue green algae

More common in ponds and lakes, blue green algae can form in any standing fresh water, especially during

## (Communal Dog Bowls...continued)

hot dry weather. The bacteria itself is not visible to the naked eye but if a slime/film is noticed on the surface of the water or the water has a green tinge to it then algae may be present.

### Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease Complex (AKA Kennel Cough)

The usual route of transmission is close contact with other dogs who cough or sneeze in proximity to your pet. However just like the common cold in people, viruses can live on surfaces that were contaminated by sick pets.

### Canine Papilloma Virus

This results in wart like lesions in and around the mouth and is spread by the drool of infected dogs. The virus can live on the edges of water bowls. This is one I see commonly in puppies that go to day care facilities.



The lowest risk is to carry a bowl with you for your dog's personal use. I like the collapsible silicone bowls for convenience but there are numerous products available including bottles/flasks with foldable bowls attached.

When using a communal bowl is unavoidable, the safest is likely to be a stainless steel one as the material is more resistant to harboring organisms than plastic ones. Bowls at restaurants or shops are likely washed more often than ones you find at a dog park or along a walking trail.

ZERO TOLERANCE. ZERO EXCUSES.



ABUSE AN ANIMAL IN LEE COUNTY...GO TO JAIL.

# SPEAK UP

# FOR THE VOICE- LESS



◀ Khaleesi was rescued in Cape Coral after suffering horrific neglect at her former owners hands. She was severely malnourished and couldn't even stand. Today, she is healed and in a loving home. Her former owners were jailed on felony charges. One call made all the difference.

## SWFL CRIME STOPPERS



## STOP DOG FIGHTING AND ANIMAL CRUELTY NOW!

CALL CRIME STOPPERS AT  
**1-800-780-TIPS**  
(8477)

## TO PROTECT ANIMALS WHO CANNOT PROTECT THEMSELVES.

Paid by CSTF

### DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT...

Temperatures in Lee County, and across the nation, reach oppressive and nearly unbearable levels during these summer months.

During this portion of the year, hospital emergency rooms are inundated with victims of heat exhaustion, hyperthermia and other heat-related illnesses.

Our domestic animals are not immune from suffering from illnesses and injuries from the harsh temperatures.

Approaching from a standard of decency and compassion, pet owners are respectfully asked to limit the time that their pets spend outdoors, to ensure that walks are brief and on grass and that hot pavement and asphalt be avoided whenever possible.



Ample supplies of water should always be available to our pets.

Florida statutes and Lee County Ordinances do offer protection for animals.

### NEVER LEAVE CHILDREN, ELDERS OR PETS INSIDE OF A PARKED VEHICLE.

Florida § 768.139(2) **does** permit a person to enter a motor vehicle, "by force or otherwise," for the purpose of removing a vulnerable person or domestic animal from inside.

Good Samaritans must call 911 immediately and prior to entering a vehicle. Unless the individual or animal is showing signs of extreme distress or is in peril, good Samaritans should allow for the arrival of law enforcement.

There are criteria for such an act and good Samaritans need to be aware that there must be "good faith and reasonable belief, based upon the known circumstances, that entry into the motor vehicle is necessary because the vulnerable person or domestic animal is in imminent danger of suffering harm." Additionally, the good Samaritan may not use more force than is necessary to remove the individual/animal. Lee County Ordinance 14-22 prohibits tethering; "the

### (Don't even think about it...continued)

restraining of an animal by the tying of it to any object or structure, without limitation, a house, tree, fence, post, garage, shed or weighted object of any kind, by means of rope, cord, lash, leash, running line or other attachment, without limitation."

We have made arrests for animals tethered, left without food, water and shade.



We have responded to calls for service where deceased animals were left out, in crates and/or tethered, to bake in the heat.

With the unwavering support of our State Attorney, Amira Fox, these arrests will be followed by diligent prosecution to the fullest extent of the law.

The LCSO Animal Cruelty Task Force and all Lee County Sheriff's Office deputies will protect our county's animals and enforce all statutes and ordinances.

We respectfully ask all Lee County residents, guests and visitors to report any and all concerns, immediately, to law enforcement.

"See something, say something, make the call!"

### PUP CUPS AT THE LCSO ICE CREAM TRUCK

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## KHALEESI AT THE LCSO PRESS CONFERENCE

Sheriff Carmine Marceno and Southwest Florida Crime Stoppers held a press conference at the Gulf Coast Humane Society to launch the "Speak Up for the Voiceless" campaign.

Pictured both "before and after" on a Southwest Florida Crime Stoppers public service announcement, Khaleesi's photos and message will be shared on Lee County buses and billboards.

Khaleesi, a Mutty Paws/LCSO Animal Cruelty Task Force rescue from several years ago, made a guest appearance...reminding everyone of the importance of reporting suspected animal abuse.

Sheriff Carmine Marceno and Khaleesi shared a heartwarming reunion and a "pup cup" filled with whipped cream.



## ALWAYS CHECK THE LEE COUNTY ANIMAL ABUSE REGISTRY BEFORE REHOMING A PET!





## PROTECT YOUR PETS FROM HEARTWORM

Mosquitoes are capable of spreading heartworm, a parasite that can lead to heart failure, lung disease, organ damage, and potentially fatal outcomes. It is important to fight the bite and keep your pets safe!

Heartworms can only be transmitted to your pet through the bite of an infected mosquito.

**MOSQUITOES ARE ONE OF THE GREATEST THREATS TO YOUR PETS.**

**AVOID PEAK MOSQUITO ACTIVITY**

CONSULT WITH YOUR VETERINARIAN TO DETERMINE WHICH PREVENTATIVE HEARTWORM TREATMENT IS RIGHT FOR YOUR PET.

**AVOID PEAK MOSQUITO ACTIVITY**

IF POSSIBLE, AVOID HAVING YOUR PETS OUTSIDE DURING TIMES OF PEAK MOSQUITO ACTIVITY (DAWN AND DUSK).

**USE REPELLENTS SAFE FOR YOUR DOG**

LEMON EUCALYPTUS OIL IS ONE MOSQUITO REPELLENT THAT IS SAFE FOR BOTH HUMANS AND DOGS.

**DUMP ANY STAGNANT WATER FROM CONTAINERS**

ELIMINATE PLACES FOR MOSQUITOES TO GROW AROUND YOUR HOME.

[LCMCD.ORG](http://LCMCD.ORG)

## ADOPTING A SENIOR DOG...AN ACT OF LOVE AND COMPASSION

Most veterinarians begin to categorize dogs as "senior" upon reaching their seventh birthday. However, smaller dogs tend to live longer lives and may not fall into the senior category until the ages of eight or nine.

Most dogs, when appropriately cared for, live many happy and enjoyable senior years.

Older dogs regularly find themselves homeless by no fault of their own. Often, senior dogs are surrendered due to the death of a guardian, a change in living arrangements, the arrival of a new baby...none of which involve the canine's behavioral or health issues.

Sadly, many potential adopters quickly bypass the adult and senior dogs housed in shelters in search of younger canines...often puppies.

In reality, these adult and senior dogs are generally well behaved, are house-trained and have excellent social skills. Like all other homeless animals, they deserve the safe shelter of a loving home. Consider adopting a senior pet!

## COPROPHAGIA...OR, "MY DOG ATE WHAT??"

Dr. Meghan Davis DVM

Coprophagia is the medical term for an animal eating feces. It is a common complaint at the vet's office and one owners tend to be very concerned about.

People commonly believe that coprophagia means their dog is lacking some kind of vitamin or mineral. While coprophagia can be secondary to malnutrition it is unlikely in an otherwise healthy pet who is on a good quality commercial diet. However, if your dog struggles to gain weight, has loose stools or is always hungry, then conditions that cause malabsorption (ex. IBD) should be ruled out.



Intestinal parasites are another potential cause of coprophagia. This feeds into the previous discussion of malnutrition, especially when talking about hookworms. A fecal flotation performed by your vet can quickly rule in or

out this possibility. If your pet does have worms then it is extra important to break them of the coprophagia habit as they will be constantly reinfected themselves.

Typically, the reason for coprophagia is behavioral as opposed to truly medical.

Coprophagia is normal behavior for puppies. They explore the world around them via their mouths. And as newborns their mother would have licked them to stimulate elimination and ingested the waste products as they were expelled. If your puppy is eating feces, then it may just be a case of age and many of them will outgrow it as they become older.

Dogs who are bored or spend a lot of time in crates may be more prone to coprophagia; as are dogs with a history of anxiety. It's something to do, keeps their area clean and may prevent their owner yelling at them when they come home from work.

And some dogs simply just like the taste of poo!

So what do we do about it?

The best method for fixing coprophagia is avoidance!

## (Coprophagia...continued)

Leash walk your dog and pick up feces as soon as they have a bowel movement. Scoop litter boxes frequently and consider use of a baby gate that allows the cat to get over/through but not the dog.

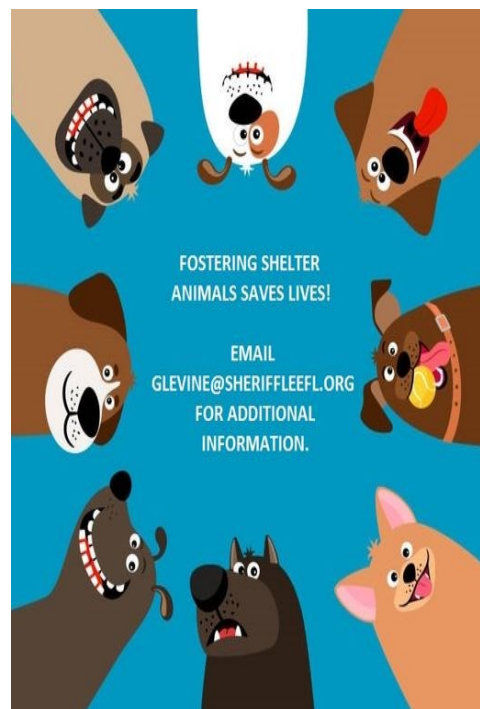
Having your pet on a consistent meal and walk schedule can also help with coprophagia. Having a routine helps predict when a dog is going to poop and if we can predict it then there's less chance of them eating it!

Teaching a dog a "leave it" command is useful not only for coprophagia but also for avoidance of other things they may encounter inside and outside the home (dropped medication, cane toads, etc.).

Increased exercise and mental stimulation (ex. Puzzle toys) may also help coprophagia. A tired dog is less likely to practice negative behaviors!

There are certain products that may or may not help deter coprophagia. For-Bid is a powder that is added to the food that is supposed to result in bitter tasting feces. People have also used pineapple and meat tenderizer in diets for the same reason. Other companies make treats that contain probiotics, fiber and digestive enzymes.

Often it is a frustrating game of trial and error but with appropriate training intervention coprophagia can usually be eliminated or greatly reduced!



## CONSIDERING FOSTERING??

The lives of thousands of shelter animals are saved annually as a direct result of pet fostering.

Be it dogs, cats, rabbits or birds, an overabundance of homeless pets require foster homes! Please help!

### AFTER 802 DAYS, YOGI FINDS A FOREVER HOME

Having resided at the Humane Society of Naples for well over two years, the four-year-old, male Pit Bull had become a staff favorite at the shelter.

Yogi was surrendered by his previous owners who were unable to take him to their new home.



An abundance of homeless Pit Bulls, breed and size restrictions at many Florida homeowner's associations

and an unfair breed stereotype has often made it difficult to find homes for dogs like Yogi.

"Yogi is one of those special pups who was waiting a long time for his 'unicorn' adopter," shared Sarah Baeckler, Chief Executive Officer for the Humane Society Naples. "Being a huge pup and having some 'stranger danger' issues, it was hard to find the right family for him."

Following a great deal of work on the part of Naples Humane Society staff...instilling confidence and a sense of security in Yogi...the perfect match was found and Yogi was on his way to his forever home.

"Yogi didn't give up on us and now he's living his best life," stated Baeckler.

Sarah Baeckler indicated that there are a significant number of dogs, like Yogi, residing in nearly every shelter in the nation.

The Lee County Sheriff's Office has always found the Humane Society of Naples to be a caring partner and is so grateful to them for their efforts with Yogi!



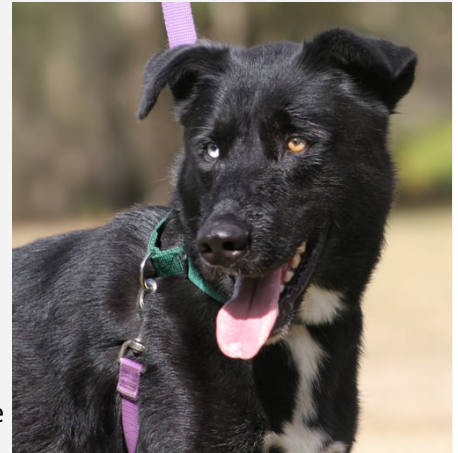
### MEET "DAKOTA"

Dakota, a magnificent Husky mix, has been a resident at the Animal Refuge Center for too many years. A senior, he has spent the majority of his life in shelter care.

It's time for our community to step up...share his story...and work diligently to find a home for Dakota.

Please come out to the Animal Refuge Center, located at 18001 Old Bayshore Road in North Fort

Myers, and meet this wonderful boy!



For additional information, please call 239-731-3535.

### FELINE EAR MITES

Your cat is shaking his head and consistently scratching at his ear. Ear mites are parasites that make their homes within the ears of cats (and dogs) and usually cause severe irritation and itchiness.

Nesting within the animal's ear canal, ear mites feed on skin debris. They lay eggs within the canal of the ear and, in a matter of weeks, those eggs develop into functioning mites...also able to reproduce.

Ear mites are contagious and are usually acquired by way of contact with an infected pet.

Please see your veterinarian should your pet be shaking his/her head, scratching repeatedly at one or both ears or if you notice a dark, waxy discharge that resembles coffee grinds. Additionally, close inspection may reveal tiny, white specks moving about inside the ear.

While there are over-the-counter treatments for this condition, they generally do not work as well as medications prescribed by a veterinarian.

