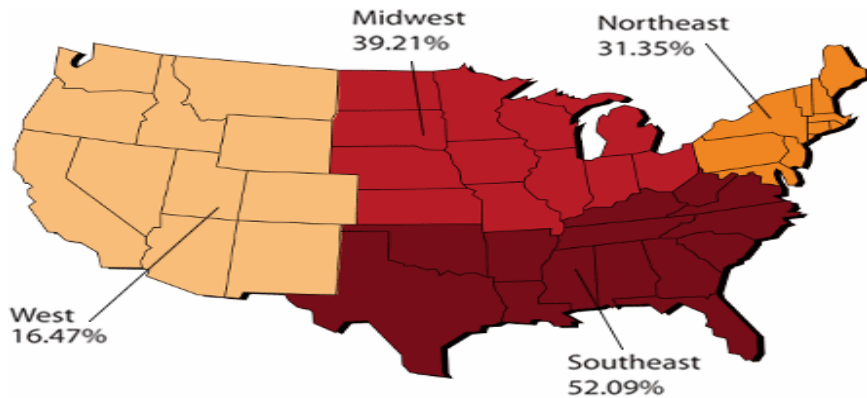


Attention Pet Owners:

Are you aware of the risk of exposure to intestinal parasites in our area? The environment may contain several parasites including Roundworms, Tapeworms, Hookworms, Whipworms, Coccidia, and Giardia. Check out the map below which represents the percentage of dogs and cats, by region, that are infected with at least one intestinal parasite:



These parasites may cause changes in your pet's stool, vomiting, and/or weight loss. If left untreated, they can lead to further health problems. Some intestinal parasites also pose a zoonotic threat; they can be passed from pets to humans. This risk is highest for children and immunocompromised adults.

Some of the parasites may be visible in your pets stool:

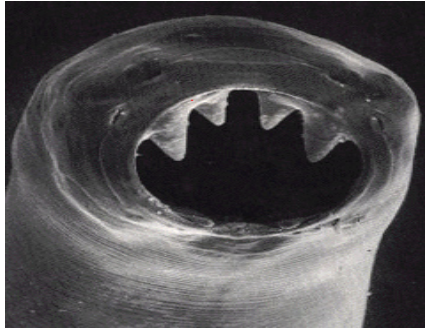


Roundworm (long, spaghetti-like)



Tapeworm (long, fettuccini-like (whole) or segmented rice-like (individual segments))

However, most parasites are not clearly visible and must be identified by microscopic examination of a stool sample. What do these parasites look like?



Hookworm (only visible microscopically)



Whipworm (only visible microscopically)



Coccidia (only visible microscopically)



Giardia (only visible microscopically)

Lincoln Land Animal Clinic promotes parasite prevention and awareness. To help keep your pets healthy and free of parasites please collect a fresh stool specimen from your pet and bring it to the clinic for microscopic examination. You can place the specimen in a baggie, plastic dish, etc. The most important thing to remember is that the stool sample must be fresh. We will notify you of the results and any medications or actions that may be necessary.

Several of these parasites can be controlled with monthly heartworm prevention and flea and tick control. Please contact us if you have any questions about your pet's health!