



## **Growing Up With Pets Fact File: Zap Zoonosis**

### **Passing on Parasites**

- Zoonosis is the transfer of parasites from pets to people.
- Some ways people may contract parasites from pets include:
  - Not washing hands after playing with infected pets
  - Contact with pet feces
  - Putting hands in mouth after playing with infected pet
  - Eating after playing or petting an infected animal
- Some common places that parasites can live include:
  - Sand boxes and litter boxes
  - Bedding or other places where fecal residual might appear
  - Gardens, flower beds and other outdoor spots pets and animals might play

### **Preventive Action**

- Use a broad spectrum parasite control product.
- Supervise pet and child play; ensure that children do not ingest soil or touch fecal matter.
- Encourage frequent hand washing.
- Do not allow small children to play in uncovered sandboxes, which can harbor parasites.
- Avoid sharing food or kissing animals on their mouths.
- Keep pets away from strays or wild animals, which might serve as hosts to intestinal parasites.
- Remove pet feces immediately. Do not let it break down in the yard.

Growing Up With Pets is sponsored by SENTINEL® (milbemycin oxime /lufenuron) Flavor Tabs®, which provides parasite protection in a formulation that is convenient and safe for use in households with children.

*Always test dogs for heartworm prior to using SENTINEL® Flavor Tabs®. A small percentage of treated dogs can experience digestive, neurological and skin side effects.*



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