

Pet Talk with Dr. Chase



APPROXIMATELY 7 OUT OF 10 MOSQUITOES IN THE MID-SOUTH AREA CARRY HEARTWORM LARVAE.

Dog and cats (even indoor only)
can get heartworms from a
single mosquito bite.

Year-round prevention is
necessary and recommended
for all dogs and cats,
especially in the
Southeastern US.

Dogs take 6 months
after being bitten
by a heartworm
positive mosquito
before testing
positive on a heartworm test, so
testing again after 6 months is
important.



There is no approved
treatment once a cat is
infected with heartworms so
prevention is key.

The cost of heartworm
treatment for dogs far
exceeds the costs of monthly
heartworm prevention.

1 in 4 cats
diagnosed with
heartworm disease
are “indoor only”.

In 2024, in Desoto County,
1 out of 20 dogs tested in a veterinary clinic
tested positive for heartworm disease.



**If you suspect your pet of having
heartworms or if your pet is not currently
on heartworm prevention, please see a
veterinarian as soon as possible.**