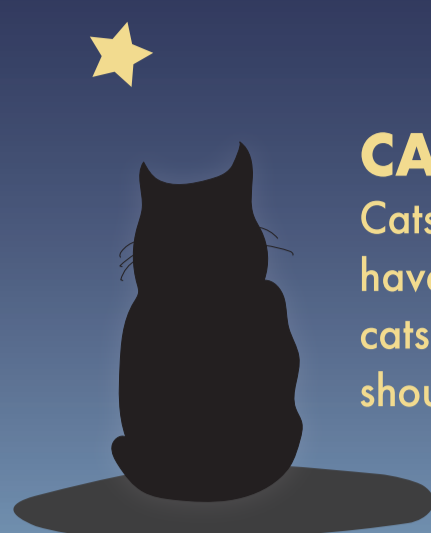


The DOG DAYS of Summer & Hidden Heartworm HAZARDS

July 3rd kicks off what the Farmer's Almanac officially designate as the "dog days" of summer. As you and your pup explore ways to keep cool, check out these fun (and not-so-fun) facts.

WHEN are the DOG DAYS?

The "dog days" of summer (July 3 – August 11) are named for Sirius, the night sky's brightest star. During these 40 days, the sun and Sirius share the same sky location.



CATS get HEARTWORMS, too.

Cats have their own star, Felis, but don't have designated "cat days." However, cats ARE susceptible to heartworms and should be protected.



TAKING a DIP?

If your dog uses a topical heartworm preventive, make sure to follow your preferred product's directions. Depending on the product, avoiding water for 24 hours after application is a must.

WILDLIFE WOES.

Coyotes have become part of the urban landscape—and they carry heartworms, just like unprotected dogs.



HEADING on a summer VACAY?

Don't forget to pack your pup's heartworm preventive. Missing a dose or giving it late can put him or her at risk.



STAYING HOME? THERE'S NO "SAFE" HOUSE.

Mosquitoes love to come inside, where they can continue feeding on pets—and spread heartworms.



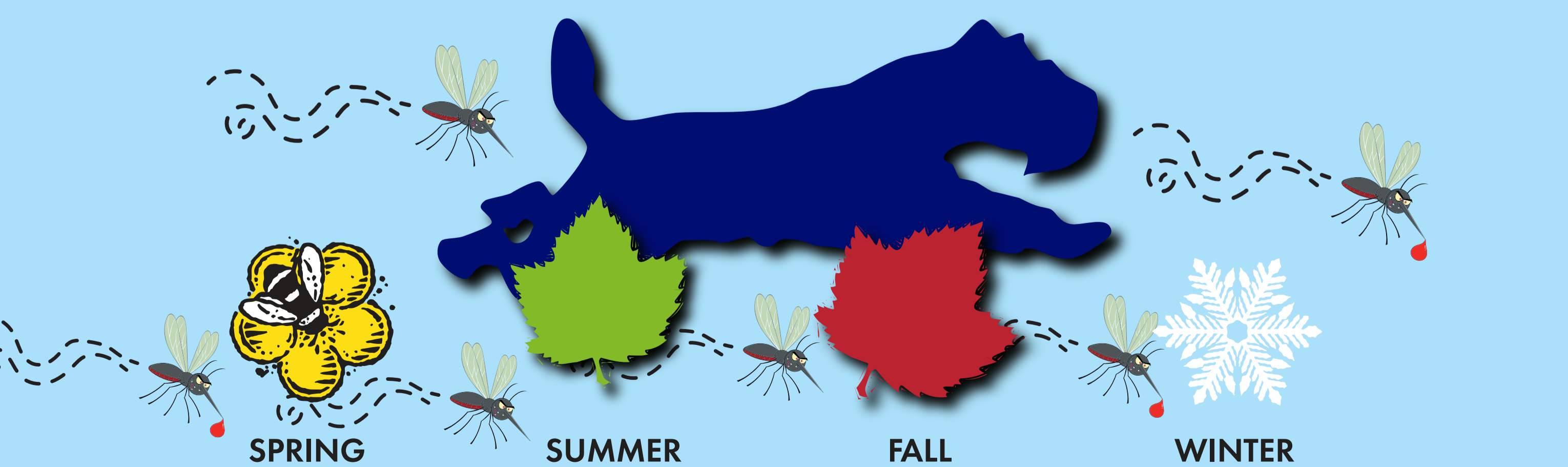
Be MINDFUL of MOSQUITOES!

With their fur coats and limited sweat glands, keeping cool can be hard for hounds. If you walk your dog early or late, in the cool of the day, remember that many heartworm-toting mosquito species prefer feeding at these times. Keep your pooch protected!



Heartworm RISK PERSISTS beyond summer.

Heartworm risk doesn't end when the "dog days" are over. Mosquitoes continue to transmit heartworms when the weather cools and the days shorten. That's why the American Heartworm Society recommends year-round heartworm prevention.



Heartworm is NOT just a DOG DAYS problem.

Heartworm is a year-round problem in many parts of the country—and it's been found in all 50 states. Protect your pets from heartworm in EVERY season!