

# PETS & ALLERGIES



**Seasonal allergies aren't just people problems. Dogs and cats can be allergic to ragweed, grasses, pollens and molds just like us. Common signs of environmental allergies in pets include:**

- Excessive itching, licking or chewing at body parts
- Rubbing against furniture or other objects
- Hair loss/ bald patches
- Discharge from the ears
- Runny nose, watery eyes, coughing or sneezing
- Red, swollen paws
- Hot spots, open sores or rash



## How to help at home:

- Bathe regularly with hypoallergenic shampoos designed for pets with allergies.
- Wipe paws with a damp cloth after walks.
- Keep windows shut when pollen counts are high.
- Use air filters.
- Vacuum regularly.
- Wash your pet's bedding at least weekly.
- Ask us about topical treatments, medications or supplements that can give your pets relief.



## Other Common Triggers:

### Foods:

**The most common allergens for dogs: beef, chicken, dairy, and wheat.**

**The most common allergens for cats: beef, lamb, seafood, dairy, and corn.**

- Frequent ear infections
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Itchy skin



### Flea bites:

Flea allergy dermatitis (FAD) is the number one cause of allergic reactions in pets. Just one bite can make your pet miserably itchy! Often, constant scratching can cause bacteria or yeast to get into the skin and cause an infection. Using year-round flea control is the best way to put an end to your pet's flea allergy.



### Allergy Testing:

once other causes have been ruled out, we can order a variety of tests to identify which allergens are giving your pet trouble. Elimination diets can help identify which foods in your pet's diet are causing symptoms, and other tests can be performed to reveal reactions to environmental and food allergens.

**Please talk to us about signs you've noticed. Always consult with us before introducing new treatments or changing your pet's diet.**