



Tales from the Trail

May 2026

X-RAY INTERPRETATION IMPROVEMENTS!

We're excited to share that Indian Trail Animal Hospital now offers AI-supported radiology interpretation for our X-rays!

When your veterinarian would like an added layer of support—but without the higher cost of a board-certified veterinary radiologist—this can be a helpful and efficient option.

As always, our goal is to continue improving the care and service we provide to you and your pets. This is one more way we're working to better serve you and your pets.



IS THAT POOP REALLY NORMAL?!



Here's what we're seeing in North Carolina already this year:

- 🐕 2,500+ dogs with roundworms
- 🐱 800+ cats with roundworms
- 🐕 6,000+ dogs with hookworms

These parasites are more than just a pet problem—they're zoonotic, meaning they can spread to people. 😬 While your pet is positive, every bowel movement can contain hundreds to thousands of parasite eggs—even if the stool looks completely normal.

Those eggs live in the environment and can infect people through:

- Bare feet in the yard
- Gardening (bare hands!)
- Kids playing outside

✓ The good news: easy to prevent and easy to treat

The best protection is keeping your pet on a veterinary-recommended monthly preventative that includes roundworm and hookworm coverage.

Let's help protect our pets, our kids, and our community this season.

📞 Call, text, or message us to make sure your pet is covered!
704-821-7040

A PLACE TO REMEMBER: OUR MEMORIAL GARDEN

At Indian Trail Animal Hospital, we know that the bond we share with our pets never truly fades. Whether your loss was recent or many years ago, that love—and those memories—deserve a place to be honored.

Our Memorial Garden was created as a peaceful space for remembrance, reflection, and healing. We invite anyone—clients and non-clients alike—to place a memorial rock in honor of a beloved pet. It's a simple, meaningful way to celebrate the lives that have meant so much to us.

One of our clients recently shared this note after visiting:
"We laid our stone today for Frankie. This was so therapeutic for my husband and I—thank you for having this beautiful memorial available to us. Much love to you all until we meet again."



WARNING: LYME DISEASE!



We're already seeing a concerning trend in North Carolina this year—nearly 5,000 cases of Lyme disease have been diagnosed in dogs.

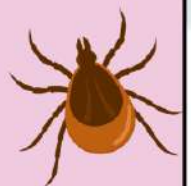


With ticks becoming more prevalent, protecting your dog is more important than ever.

- ✓ Year-round tick prevention is essential
- ✓ Lyme vaccination adds an extra layer of protection

Even dogs that don't hike or travel can be exposed—ticks are commonly found right in our neighborhoods and backyards. The combination of prevention + vaccination is the best way to reduce your dog's risk.

If you're unsure whether your dog is fully protected, we're here to help!



☎ Call, text, or message us to schedule a vaccine visit or review your pet's current plan. 704-821-7040



CATS BEWARE!

We're seeing an important trend in feline health here in North Carolina—already this year, about 2% of cats have tested positive for Feline Leukemia (FeLV) and over 5% have tested positive for Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV).

These are serious viral diseases that can impact a cat's immune system and long-term health—but understanding the risks can help us protect them.

Feline Leukemia (FeLV)

- Weakens the immune system and can lead to serious illness
- Vaccine preventable and recommended for many cats
- Spread through close contact like grooming or shared bowls

Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV)

- Also affects the immune system, often slowly over time
- Most commonly transmitted through bite wounds from infected cats
- Higher risk in outdoor or roaming cats



The good news? Prevention and early detection make a big difference. If your cat goes outdoors (even occasionally), lives with other cats, or you're unsure of their status, we're here to help guide you on testing and vaccination.

 **Reach out to schedule a visit or to review your cat's protection plan—we're always happy to help. 704-821-7040**