



*Becker Veterinary Clinic
Mille Lacs Veterinary Clinic, Foley and Milaca*

Consent Form for Refill of Heartworm Medication Prescription Without a Blood Test

I, the undersigned owner or agent for the owner of the pet(s) named _____, understand that standard veterinary procedures require that dogs receiving heartworm preventative treatment be **tested annually** for the presence of heartworm larvae or antibodies, especially in high risk areas like Minnesota.

- It is virtually impossible for veterinarians or owners to know whether each pet in a family received and actually ingested his/her heartworm medication on a regular basis during the previous year.
- Pets that miss one or more month's treatments are at risk of becoming infected with adult heartworms, which puts their overall health in serious jeopardy.
- A small percentage of pets harboring adult worms and/or heartworm larvae will suffer serious adverse reactions after receiving routine heartworm preventative medication.
- The American Heartworm Society and manufacturer's recommend an annual test for pets receiving the heartworm medication.

For these reasons, Mille Lacs Veterinary Clinic has established this policy: If your pet's initial heartworm prescription was for less than one year and more than six weeks have passed since the last heartworm preventative pill was administered, the blood test needs to be repeated before the prescription can be refilled. If the initial prescription was for one year, and all pills were administered on schedule, prescriptions will be refilled only if your pet had had a negative heartworm test and had a current examination.

The American Heartworm Society recommends year-round heartworm prevention, as do our clinics.

I decline this recommended blood test. I agree to not hold Mille Lacs Veterinary Clinic responsible in the event heartworm medication is purchased and administered by me or my agents without the recommended blood test and one or more of these subsequently acquires heartworm or suffers an adverse reaction to the medication. In addition, if your pet does not comply with the recommendation of testing for the guarantee on the particular Heartworm medication the owner decides to use, the heartworm company may or may not pay for the treatment if your pet is diagnosed with heartworm while receiving heartworm prevention medication.

Signature of Owner or Agent

Date