

# Pawsitive Press

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### The Power of Laser Therapy

By: Jacquelyn Olson, D.V.M.

You may have heard that the Animal Hospital of Dunedin has started providing laser therapy treatments for our patients. What is laser therapy you ask? Therapeutic laser therapy is a noninvasive procedure that uses light to stimulate cellular regeneration, increase blood circulation, decrease swelling, and decrease pain! We have a Class 4 Cold Laser that delivers therapy without causing heating or damage to delicate tissues. We can use our cold laser therapy to promote wound healing and treat pets with arthritis, tendon, or soft tissue injuries.



Recently a young golden retriever came in for a swollen and painful paw. Upon examination, initially, no other injuries or wounds were seen.



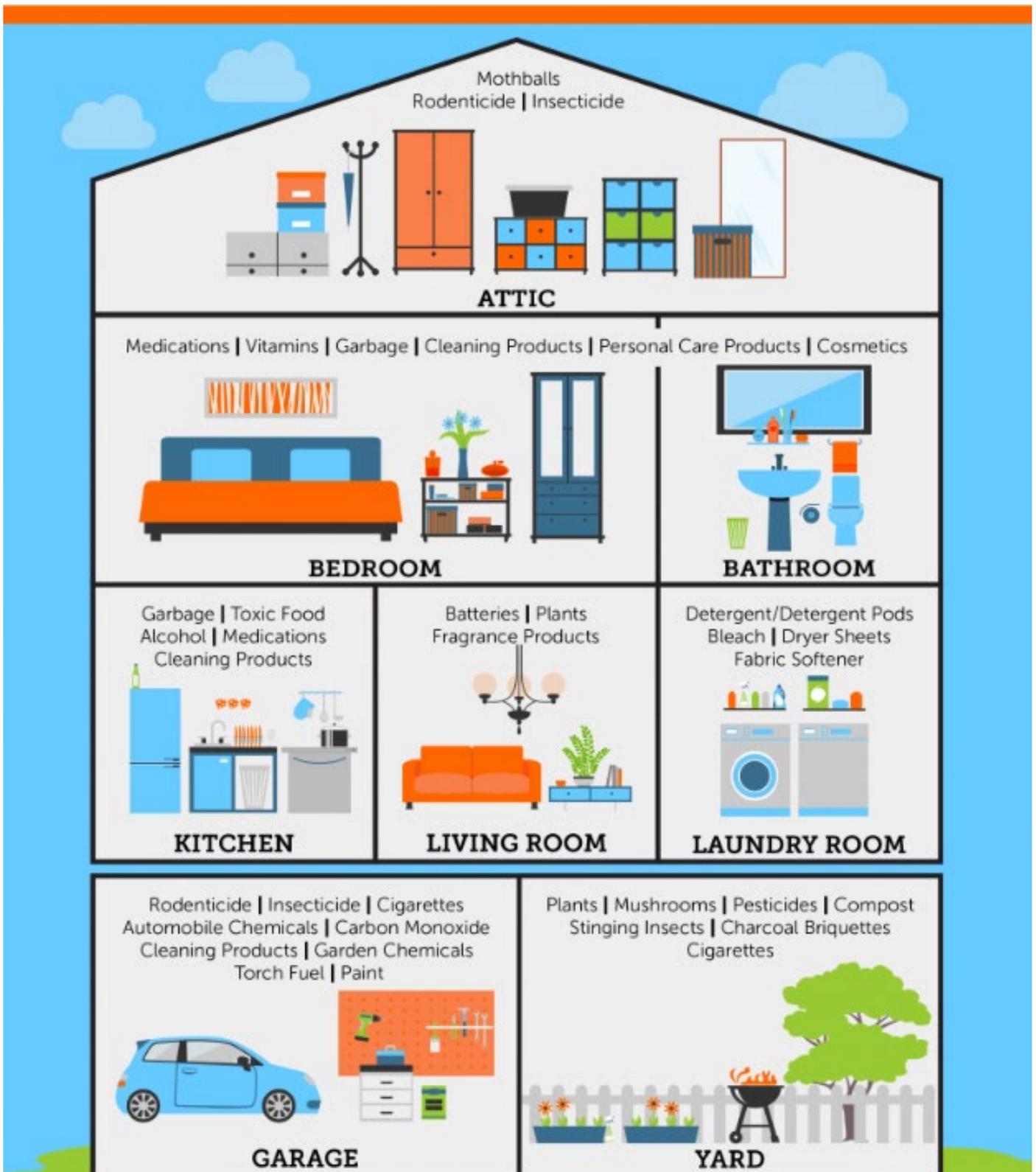
However, the next day a large, ulcerated wound appeared on the patients paw. A spider bite was suspected. The treatment plan for the patient included surgery to remove the dead tissue, oral antibiotics to prevent infection, bandaging with silver sulfadiazine (an antibiotic cream), and bi-weekly laser therapy. Over the next several weeks, the wound vastly improved, as can be seen in the photos. Eventually, bandaging and topical creams were discontinued as the body was able to continue healing the wound itself.



Many spiders, such as the brown recluse, can cause tissue necrosis (death) with the toxins in their venom. Wounds caused by these toxins can be severe, as they are damaging the tissues long before a wound appears. This patient was lucky that her owners acted swiftly to get her in for treatment. This was a great case to illustrate the power of laser therapy to aid the healing process. Laser therapy is used to reduce pain and inflammation and is commonly thought of as a tool to assist with arthritis or orthopedic injuries. However, its anti-inflammatory properties can also help the wound healing process progress as excessive inflammation can delay wound healing. We're thrilled that this special girl can go back to digging in the yard thanks to her dedicated owners and treatment at the Animal Hospital of Dunedin.



# March is Pet Poison Prevention Month!



For more information about these and other potentially toxic substances, please visit our website: [ASPCA.org/Poison](https://www.aspcapoisson.org).  
If your pet gets into something potentially toxic, please call the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center at (888) 426-4435.

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**We're on the Web!**  
[www.ahofd.com](http://www.ahofd.com)



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**\$1**

## First Exam - New Patient

(\$49-\$80 Savings)

Includes comprehensive physical exam and one vaccine. Does not include 3yr Rabies vaccine. Must be presented at the time of purchase. Coupon may not be combined with any other offer. NL



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**-10%**

## 10% Off Dental Cleaning

( Call for an appointment today 727-733-9351)

Discount applies to anesthesia, prophylaxis, and any other dental radiographs or extractions that might be needed. Offer excludes required pre-dental labwork. May not be combined with any other coupons or discounts. Must be presented at the time of purchase. Expires 3.31.21 NL



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**\$10 Off**

## \$200 Retail Mix and Match

- \*Shampoo
- \*Food
- \*Heartworm Prevention
- \*Dietary Supplements
- \*Flea and Tick Control

Coupon must be presented at the time of purchase. May not be combined with any other offer.  
\*\*This coupon can not be applied to prescription medications other than heartworm/flea control\*\* Expires 3.31.21 NL