



**Cleary Lake Veterinary Hospital**  
**www.clearylakevets.com**  
**952-435-VETS (8387)**

Small Animal Edition

August 2009

**Have you heard about the  
Twin City Animal Blood Bank? (TCABB)**

Dog and cats need blood too, and just like the human world, there are never enough donors! Want your pet to help save lives? TCABB is looking for donors all the time. To become a donor, pets must be between the ages of 1 and 9, healthy (not on any medication), even-tempered, and current on all core vaccinations. Feline donors must be indoor-only and test negative for feLV/FIV. Canine donors must be on heartworm preventative and test negative for heartworm, lyme, and ehrlichia. All female donors must be spayed with no history of pregnancy. Dogs must weigh at least 50 pounds. To find out if your pet can donate call **612-750-1252** to talk to a staff member. Visit [www.smaec.com/tcabb/donors.php](http://www.smaec.com/tcabb/donors.php) for more information.

TCABB is based in Apple Valley, MN out of South Metro Animal Emergency Care's building at 14690 Pennock Ave, Apple Valley, MN 55124

Check out our website  
[www.clearylakevets.com](http://www.clearylakevets.com)  
and take our survey & print  
out a coupon for \$5.00!

Refer a Friend  
When you refer a friend to us, they give  
us your name, and we send you a gift  
certificate for \$20.00!

Friends we will miss...

Abby	Allie
Barney	Chance
Chi	Dixie
Freeway	Jack
Jazz	Keeper
Peaches	Pekoe

These are patients that have passed  
away this month. Our thoughts are  
with their families.

**CAUTION SWIMMERS Blue-green algae can be harmful to you and your pets**

Algae are microscopic plants that are common in lakes and surface waters of Minnesota. When temperature and water conditions are right, algae "blooms" can turn the water green and smelly. Most species of algae are harmless, but one form, blue-green algae, may produce toxins harmful to humans and animals. Not all blue-green algae blooms will become toxic but it is not possible to know which blooms are toxic and which are not.

Humans, pets or livestock who have contact with blue-green algae blooms can become sick. Contact occurs most commonly in July and August during swimming or drinking the water. Skin contact or ingestion of the toxins can produce symptoms within minutes to hours. The toxins affect the liver or nervous system and produce signs such as skin irritation, lethargy, nausea, headache, vomiting, diarrhea, salivation, respiratory distress, muscle pain, or muscle tremors. In worst cases, an animal may suffer paralysis or convulsions and die. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) reports that 8 blue-green algae related dog deaths have occurred from 2004-2007.

The Minnesota Department of Health recommends the following:

- People should not ingest, swim or wade in water with blue-green algae.
- If contact does occur, the material should be washed off thoroughly, paying special attention to the swimsuit area.
- If your pet comes in contact with a bloom, wash off your pet's coat to prevent the pet from ingesting the algae while self grooming.
- Be cautious while enjoying our Minnesota waters. If you suspect your pet is sick from blue-green algae exposure call your veterinarian immediately.

Janelle Abram, DVM