

Pet **Tips**



*Presented
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Is Your Dog Doing The "Boot Scoot Boogie" On Your Floor?

Most pet owners think this is a sure sign of internal parasites. It may also be that your dog's anal glands are in need of expression.

What are anal glands? They are small sacs on either side of the anus. These sacs expel a fragrant liquid when a dog defecates, marking the territory.

If frightened or injured a dog may express these glands. Believe me, you'll know when this happens! The liquid secreted has a strong aroma similar to that of rotten meat.

Small dogs can sometimes have more difficulty expressing these glands. If they become too full and remain that way, they can become infected and rupture, requiring antibiotics or sometimes even surgery.

Your veterinarian and groomer can help! When your pet is groomed, these glands should be checked and, if needed, expressed. Then the groomer can bathe your dog, removing any remnants of the rather fragrant anal gland aroma. At our clinic the vet and groomer work closely together to help find the best solution for pets with this problem.

So when you see Fluffy or Fido scooting across the floor, you'll know it's not just a new canine country and western dance, but that it's time to have those anal glands checked!

P.S. Bring in this column and receive \$5 off your pet's first grooming with us. Offer expires 4/30/08.

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