



3224 BATTLEGROUND AVE
GREENSBORO, NC 27408
(336) 288-8550

The Paw Print

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Holiday Safety

Remember to keep your pet safe this holiday season!

Avoid contact with:

- Broken bulbs
- Candy
- Christmas tree water
- Chocolate
- Ham bones
- Poinsettias
- Ribbon
- Tree tinsel

Also resist the temptation to share human food with your pet! This can cause gastrointestinal upset and pancreatitis.

Call our clinic, or an after hours emergency clinic, immediately if you believe your pet has ingested an unsafe object or food.



Pet Insurance: Worth the Cost?

This is a common question we hear often from our clients...Is Pet Insurance worth the cost? We've been advocates of pet insurance at Cobb Animal Clinic for many years because we believe that it has the ability to enable pet owners to plan and prepare for their pet's care, both routine and emergency. Costly life-saving or life-extending care for pets often goes beyond an owner's financial means, which leaves the owner facing some pretty difficult decisions.

When making a decision regarding pet insurance, we recommend that owners consider their individual financial situation. A study conducted by The American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) found that most pet owners can manage expenses up to \$500.00, but would have difficulties beyond that level. If you are able to easily afford your pet's routine, and possibly emergency, care then you may not need pet insurance. If you do not have the ability to

handle these expenses, then pet insurance may warrant some consideration.

Numerous clients at our clinic have had pet insurance for many years now, and definitely love the advantages it provides, including Mr. and Mrs. Jim and Sue Rabon. The Rabon's have been very satisfied with their experiences with VPI. Their insurance plan helped cover many of their pet's surgical and medical needs, including a cystotomy surgery, which cost over eight-hundred

"If it hadn't been for VPI and their excellent coverage, I am not sure we would have been able to afford Harley's lengthy illness without getting into our retirement funds!"

Sue Rabon

dollars in 2005.

All pet insurance companies offer different plans, deductibles, and exclusions, so it is up to the pet owner to find the best match



for

insurance companies you can research include:

- PurinaCare
- 24PetWatch
- ASPCA
- Trupanion
- VPI
- Pets Best

Each company offers free quotes on their websites or by phone. Monthly premium cost will be affected by various factors, such as health and age. There are also other factors to consider! Make sure to investigate each company's policies in regards to: pre-existing conditions, deductibles, premium increases due to aging and claims, and payout limits. Of course, it is best to start insurance while your pet is under one year old, but all pet owners could potentially benefit.

If you have an questions regarding pet insurance or would like to obtain more information, please call us at (336) 288-8550 or visit our website at

Family Fun Festival

Earlier this Fall, our clinic really enjoyed participating in Lake Jeanette Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry's Family Fun Festival. Cobb Animal Clinic, along with other Greensboro businesses, donated services and products for a raffle which benefited the Guilford Interfaith Hospitality Network to assist homeless

families.

All of our visitors enjoyed meeting our pets, playing ring toss (made specially by Dr. Whitley!) and receiving plenty of goodies. The Doctors and Staff of Cobb Animal Clinic look forward to participating in these events that help support our community



Reminder: Sugar-free Gum, Mints, and Candies can be Toxic to Your Dog!

Xylitol is an artificial sweetener that is increasingly being used for sugar-free chewing gum, mints, candies and toothpaste. While this sweetener is safe for humans, it is a dangerous toxin for dogs.

Xylitol causes its toxic effect by rapid release of insulin from the pancreas into the bloodstream. This causes a correspondingly rapid decrease in blood sugar that can develop within 30 to 60 minutes of ingestion. Dogs begin to vomit, stumble and stagger, become



Some common products containing xylitol.

weak and have seizures. They may also develop liver failure that can be fatal. Quick and aggressive therapy may help prevent liver complications.

Therapy includes intravenous fluid administration, along with dextrose to

correct the low blood sugar and liver protectant medications. In most cases, two or three days of fluid therapy and blood sugar monitoring along with one to two weeks of liver protective therapy is adequate.

The key is to keep gum and candy well out of your dog's reach and if you suspect ingestion, seek veterinary care immediately.

Dr. Whitley

American Heart Association's Heart Walk 2010

This year marked our fifth year participating in the Guilford American Heart Association's Heart and Stroke Walk! We were, yet again, glad to be able to raise donations to aid the foundation in heart disease and stroke research.

Kendra Meade, "Red Cap Sur- were in atten- along with Dr. additional clinic family members. We our clinic t-shirt won the Team Theme." We were pre- awards ceremony portion that day. Our team theme, "Love Your Heart Like You Love Your Pets", is always a big hit! Thank you to everyone for their continued support of this important cause, and we can't wait until next year's walk!



Mary Baynes & the clinic's vivors", dance again, Whitley, employees and were ecstatic when t-shirt contest for "Best



January is DENTAL MONTH at Cobb Animal Clinic! Save 10% on your pet's routine dentistry. Call to schedule an appointment!

Clinic Holiday Hours:

Christmas Eve:	7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.
Christmas Day:	7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.
New Year's Eve:	7:00 a.m. - Noon
New Year's Day:	7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.

After Hours Emergency Clinic: 851-1990
Carolina Veterinary Specialists: 632-0605
Happy Tails Emergency Clinic: 288-2688

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