



Happy Holidays from CPVETS

The holidays are a wonderful time of year when family and friends get together. Here are some ideas to help keep our four legged family members happy and healthy not only during the holiday season but year round too.

For a more complete list, take time to visit www.paw-rescue.org, or www.humanesc.org, or talk to your regular veterinarian. The holiday season brings many exciting new sights, sounds and smells.

Here are some tips to think about when decorating your home:

- Decorations such as tinsel and glass ornaments are beautiful just keep in mind where they are placed. Ingestion of tinsel, ribbon, and sharp objects often leads to surgery.
- Snow globes often contain anti freeze, which is very harmful to pets.
- Wood stoves are now burning with the colder weather; make sure cats and small animals aren't able to jump up on the hot surface.
- New plants can be harmful to your pet's stomach; some can even cause kidney damage, seizures, and heart problems:
 - Poinsettias
 - Mistletoe
 - Holly
 - Stagnant water for the Christmas tree may also have diluted chemicals in order to keep the tree fresh
 - Lilies
 - Christmas cactus
 - Pine needles

Tasty food and treats can be especially harmful to our friends. Make sure all treats are secure, and bones and leftovers are disposed of properly.

- Ingestion of chocolate, raisins, grapes, coffee, salty or fatty treats, certain artificial sweeteners, and rising dough can all warrant a trip to the emergency vet.

Sometimes it is best to consider placing your pets in a secure room while you are away holiday shopping or hosting your annual Holiday Party. In all the chaos it is easy for the pets to slip out the door or sneak a few treats.

Frostbite is a real concern for any pets that spend a significant amount of time outdoors. This can lead to amputation of toes or limbs. Monitor your pet closely when outdoors this time of year.

- You should limit the time senior pets, pups, or toy breeds are outside
- Pet coats and sweaters are a fashionable way to keep warm.

If you suspect that your pet may have eaten something toxic, consult your veterinarian, veterinary emergency center, and/or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center's 24-hour emergency hotline:

- ASPCA Poison Control 1-888-4-ANI-HELP (1-888-426-4435)
- Your Vet's Number _____
- CPVETS 814-237-4670