

PET POISONS

Every year, thousands of pets are accidentally exposed to toxic substances. March is Poison Prevention Month and the perfect time to learn more about preventing a toxic situation.

Take a look at these most common instances of poisonings as reported by the Animal Poison Control Center.

IF YOU SUSPECT YOUR PET HAS BEEN EXPOSED TO A POTENTIALLY TOXIC SUBSTANCE, CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN IMMEDIATELY AND CONTACT THE ANIMAL POISON CONTROL HOTLINE BY CALLING 888-426-4435

MEDICATIONS INTENDED FOR HUMANS

The most common causes of poisonings in pets come from the ingestion of human medications, both over the counter and prescription. Keep medications out of reach, and never give your pet any medication intended for human use unless instructed by your Veterinarian.



FOODS TOXIC TO PETS

Most pet parents are well aware of the dangers of chocolate and other hazardous foods for pets. Always research before giving any human foods to pets to make sure they are not linked to toxicity. Make sure all guests and family members are aware of the dangers of sharing human food with pets.

VETERINARY MEDICATIONS AND PRODUCTS

Accidental overdoses of a medication that your pet is supposed to take are also common. To help avoid this kind of situation, set up a calendar that you mark off when medication is given and always be sure to store your pets' medications properly to avoid accidents.



HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Household cleaning items, paints, glues, and automotive products can cause major issues if ingested or inhaled. Be sure to follow all safety precautions listed on the product and store these items out of reach.

RODENTICIDES AND INSECTICIDES

Poisons intended for vermin are just as toxic to pets. Never use these products around your pet. In particular, rat and mouse baits are made to be tasty and eaten. The same ingredient in them that makes them tasty to rodents will also be appealing to your pet. It is best to choose poison-free options for dealing with vermin in and around your home if you have pets.



PLANTS, MUSHROOMS, AND FLOWERS

Check plant toxicity before landscaping or bringing a new house plant into your home. Certain plants are highly toxic to pets and a lot of pets find munching on greenery simply irresistible. Keep pets away from strange mushrooms, and do a good search of your outdoor space to eliminate any mushrooms that may be growing. When buying a bouquet, skip the lilies, amaryllis, larkspur, and other flowers that can be toxic (especially for cats).

GARDEN PRODUCTS

Fertilizers, soil enhancers, herbicides and other gardening products can be tempting to curious pets. Be sure to section off parts of your yard where these items have been recently used and supervise pets when they are around these products. Don't allow your pet to eat grass that has been treated!

