**IMPORTANT HAZARDS TO YOUR PET**

**WARM WEATHER HAZARDS**

- **ASPHALT** Minimize your pet’s time on asphalt. It heats up quickly, burns paws and causes overheating.
- **BEACHES, BOATS & POOLS** Not all dogs are good swimmers. When on or near water, keep your dog in a flotation device designed for dogs. At the beach, pool or in a boat, give your pet a shaded area and plenty of fresh, clean drinking water. Don’t let it drink from pools or bodies of water.
- **BUG SPRAY & SUN SCREEN** Do not use human products on pets—only products labeled for use on pets.
- **PARASITES** Fleas, ticks and mosquitoes carry disease that can be harmful or even fatal to your pet. Work with your primary care veterinarian to develop a program to protect your pet.

**CARS** Never leave your pet unattended in a car. Cars heat up quickly and pets can suffer from heatstroke - a serious problem that can damage the kidneys, liver, brain and other organs. Signs of heatstroke include excessive panting and drooling, mild weakness and elevated body temperature.

**COOKOUTS** Eating hot dogs, bratwurst, etc. can do more than cause an upset stomach - it can lead to pancreatitis, a serious illness for pets. And be sure to keep alcoholic beverages away from pets because alcohol is poisonous to them.

**DEHYDRATION** Pets can quickly become dehydrated. Animals should be kept inside during the hottest parts of the day.

**GARDENS** Lily, azalea, oleander and many other plants are poisonous to pets. Don’t let pets eat your garden plants. Closely follow directions if you use herbicides and pesticides, which can be toxic to pets. Keep pets off recently treated areas.

**TRAVEL** When traveling in an automobile, keep your pet securely inside the vehicle in a crate or using a specially designed seatbelt harness. Be sure your pet is micro-chipped so it can quickly be reunited with you should it become lost.

**WINDOWS, BALCONIES & DECKS** Each summer, dozens of pets fall or jump from windows, balconies and decks. The injuries can be extensive and sometimes the pet cannot be saved. Keep pets safely secured with a harness leash held by a responsible adult when on balconies and decks.

**SNOW & ICE** These can cause problems with your pets paws. Pets with finer fur can wear protective booties. Watch for limping and check for cracked red paw pads. Smaller breeds could often need an extra layer/sweater.

**CARS** Never leave your pet unattended in a car. Cars can get ice cold.

**CHEMICALS** Antifreeze tastes sweet to pets, but it can be deadly if they swallow it. Ice melt and salt can dry out the paws on your pet’s paws and some chemicals may be toxic. Wipe paws clean after every walk or outing.

**COLD WEATHER HAZARDS**

**PLANTS**
- Avocados
- Chocolate
- Coffee
- Onions
- Garlic
- Grapes & Raisins
- Macadamia Nuts
- Tea Leaves

**ALCOHOL**
- Alcohol
- Salt
- Moldy/Spoiled Foods
- Fatty Foods
- Raw Yeast Dough
- Gum, Candies, & Foods Sweetened with Xylitol

**GENERAL HOME HAZARDS**

- Plants*
- Drugs, Medicine, Vitamins
- Fabric Softener
- Mothballs
- Bleach
- Disinfectants, Detergents, & Cleaning Products
- Solvents & Removers
- Potpourri
- Tobacco Products
- Lighter Fluid
- Gasoline
- Oil & Antifreeze/Coolant
- De-Icing Salts
- Pesticides, Insect or Rodent Traps & Bait
- Lead
- Wax
- Cotton Swabs
- Pins, Needles, Tacks
- Paper Clips
- Rubber Bands
- Hair Pins & Fasteners
- Twists & Ties
- String, Yarn, Dental Floss
- Buttons
- Coins
- Small Balls/Toys
- Batteries
- Electric Cords
- Glass & Sharp Objects
- Fire Places
- Fire Pits & Grills
- Compost
- Fertilizers & Mulch
- Algae
- Bodies of Water
- Sinks & Tubs
- Washers & Dryers
- Toilets
- Doors & Windows
- Balconies
- Fences & Gates
- Lattices
- Branches & Sticks

*See our list on the back and/or visit: www.aspca.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/toxic-and-non-toxic-plants.
HOLIDAY WEATHER HAZARDS

VALENTINE’S DAY  Many types of flowers and plants found in bouquets are harmful to dogs and cats if they are ingested (see below). Chocolate can cause vomiting, diarrhea, hyperactivity, abnormal heart rhythm, seizures, and in severe cases chocolate poisoning can be fatal.

EASTER  Fake grass may look appetizing to your pet, but it could cause them to choke or obstruct their intestines if ingested. Small toys and plastic eggs can cause your pet to choke or damage their intestinal tract. Chocolate is toxic and can be fatal. Xylitol (artificial sweetener) in candy and gum is toxic to your pet.

4TH OF JULY  Fireworks can scare your pets, making them highly nervous or even run off. Fireworks can also cause serious injuries. If ingested, they are toxic. With more people and food around during picnics and parties, be mindful of harmful food accessible to your pet.

HALLOWEEN  Repeatedly opening doors for trick-or-treaters can increase the chances of your pet running out. If your pet likes to run out or is not friendly to other people, consider crating or keeping them in a secure area. Pets are naturally curious and may be attracted to lights and flames. Dogs and cats could get burned on candles or knock them over and cause a fire. Your pet could get burned on hot containers so that your pet does not tip them over and get burned.

NEW YEAR’S EVE  Balloons and confetti can cause your pet to choke or obstruct their intestines if ingested. Keep an eye on hot containers so that your pet does not tip them over and get burned. Keep your pets away from noise makers, loud music and other sounds that startle them. Watch your pets around party foods and alcoholic beverages, that are often left unattended.

THANKSGIVING  Animal bones, especially turkey, chicken, and other small animals, are very different from the large bones you find in the pet store. These small bones splinter easily and can cause serious internal damage if swallowed. Never give them to your pet. Your pet will most likely become curious when they smell something cooking. Keep an eye on hot containers so that your pet does not tip them over and get burned. With more people and food around, be mindful of harmful food accessible to your pet.

CHRISTMAS  Holiday plants like poinsettia, holly, lilies and mistletoe are all toxic to dogs and cats. Ribbons may look adorable on your pet, but placing them around your pet’s neck may cause them to choke. If swallowed, your pet could choke or it could cause internal trauma. Antique bubbling lights are attractive decorations, but may contain methylene chloride, which is a highly toxic chemical. Fire salts contain chemicals that could be harmful to your pets. Angel hair is a form of spun glass and can be irritating to the eyes and skin, and could cause intestinal obstruction if eaten. Christmas tree water containing preservatives or stagnant water could result in stomach upset if ingested. Styrofoam can cause your pets to choke if swallowed. Ornaments can look like toys to your pet, but they can cause serious injury, especially if your pet breaks or swallows them. Tinsel can cause choking or internal trauma if swallowed. Pets are naturally curious and may be attracted to lights and flames. Dogs and cats could get burned on candles or knock them over and cause a fire. Your pet will most likely become curious when they smell something cooking or baking. Keep an eye on hot containers so that your pet does not tip them over and get burned.

HAZARDOUS PLANTS


Castor Bean  Caladium  Ceriman  Cleman  Cordatum  Corn Plant  Cyclads  Cyclamen  Cactus  Cherry (Most Forms)  Chrysanthemeum  Daphne  Daffodil  Delphinium  Dieffenbachia  Dumbcane  Euonymus  Eucalyptus  Elephant Ears  Fiddle Leaf  Philodendron  Flax  Four O’Clock  Foxglove  Ferns (Most Forms)  Gladiolus

Golden Pothos  Golden Glow  Heavenly Bamboo  Honeysuckle  Hurricane Plant  Hyacinth  Hydrangea  Henbanel  Hemlock  Horse Chestnut  Iris  Ivy (Most Forms)  Jerusalem Cherry  Jimson Weed  Jack in The Pulpit  Japanese Plum  Java Beans  Jonquil  Kalanchee  Lantana  Lilies (Most Forms)  Lupine  Locoweed  Marble Queen  Morning Glory  Mother In Law

Mountain Laurel  Mistletoe  Monkshood  Mushrooms  Narcissus  Nepthusisis  Nightshade  Nutmeg  Oleander  Panda  Philodendron  Poison Hemlock  Precatory Bean  Privet  Peach  Pear  Peony  Periwinkle  Pimpemel  Poinsettia  Poison Ivy  Poison Oak  Pokeweed  Poppy


For more information visit: www.aspca.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/toxic-and-non-toxic-plants

Call 312-421-2275 to set your appointment.
Learn more about us at www.westloopvet.com
Located at 815 W. Randolph (near Halsted)

WEST LOOP VETERINARY CARE