

## HOLIDAY SAFETY

Holidays are here again! Whether it's a pet's first holiday celebrating with a family or its fifteenth, knowing how to keep four-legged family members healthy and safe will make everyone's holiday a joyous one.

- Come rain or snow, a coat will keep your dog warm and dry, especially when windchill is a concern.
- Watch for antifreeze puddles under cars. Sweet yet deadly for pets.
- Avoid the salt/ice melter found on sidewalks. Wipe your dog's paws if exposed to avoid chemical burns and accidental ingestion.





- Hot chocolate is a yummy treat after being outside, but not for pets. Chocolate can be highly toxic and burns are a risk.
- Keep an eye on your baking. Unbaked bread dough can continue to rise in a pet's stomach and cause obstruction.
- Baked goods, candies and treats containing xylitol pose the risk of poison for all pets.
- Anchor the tree. Cats like to climb and a tree is a new indoor adventure for them.
- Keep lights out of reach. Electrocution from chewing on cords is a real possibility.
- Avoid tinsel. It can become entangled in a pet's intestines and cause inflammation and obstruction.





- Enjoy alcohol responsibly. Festive cocktails can depress curious pets' reaction times too.
- Turkey and gravy may taste great but high fat foods like this can cause painful pancreatitis in pets.
- Garbage pails full of leftovers are a dog's dream and an owner's nightmare. Bones, scraps and inedible packaging can lead to intestinal upset or worse.