



Waggin' tails

Promoting Compassion Toward All Creatures

Winter 2019 ISSUE

HUMANE EDUCATION & ADOPTION REFERRALS

Hazards to Pets During the Holidays

Food

Onions (and garlic, leeks, shallots and chives)

Onions, garlic, leeks, shallots and chives all belong to the Allium species of plants and can cause toxicity, whether uncooked or cooked. Initially there can be vomiting and diarrhoea but the main effect is damage to red blood cells, resulting in anaemia. This may not be apparent for several days after ingestion.

Alcohol

Alcohol can have a similar effect in dogs as it does in their owners when drunk in excess. They can become wobbly and drowsy and in severe cases, there is a risk of low body temperature, low blood sugar and coma. Dogs may help themselves to any unattended alcohol left lying around over Christmas, so ensure it's always out of their reach.

Macadamia nuts

Macadamia nuts can cause lethargy, increased body temperature, tremor, lameness and stiffness in dogs.

Leftovers

If there is any food left over at Christmas, be careful to dispose of it well and keep it out of the reach of your four-legged friend. Not only may the food include ingredients toxic to dogs, mould in leftovers (including yogurt, bread and cheese) can produce toxins that cause rapid onset convulsions in dogs.

Artificial sweeteners

A sugar-free sweetener called xylitol is often found in the sweets we consume over Christmas, as well as chewing gums, mouthwashes, toothpastes and supplements. It is poisonous to dogs and, although the amounts in different products vary, even one to two pieces of chewing gum can cause toxic effects in a small dog. It can induce the release of insulin in the body, resulting in low blood sugar and sometimes liver damage. Signs of poisoning can be rapid or delayed, and include vomiting, lethargy, convulsions and comas. The prognosis is good if the low blood sugar is treated quickly.

Christmas plants

Poinsettia

Although toxicity of the poinsettia has often been exaggerated, it can cause irritation to the mouth and stomach with overproduction of saliva and sometimes vomiting.

Holly

The plant is considered to be of low toxicity, but ingestion of holly berries may result in a stomach upset.

Mistletoe

Ingestion of European mistletoe berries may result in an upset stomach. The American species of the plant is far more danger-

ous.

Christmas trees

A mild stomach upset can be caused if dogs eat pine needles, but the sharp tips can cause more damage internally.

Ivy

The ivy that tends to be used in wreaths and decorations is *Hedera helix* (not *Toxicodendron radicans*, the American poison ivy). But the *Hedera* species can still cause a tummy upset when ingested. Where there is significant or prolonged skin contact, *Hedera* species can also cause both irritant and allergic contact dermatitis.

Other hazards

Christmas decorations

Decorations made of plastic, paper or foil are of low toxicity although may obstruct the stomach. Glass decorations could pose a risk if chewed or swallowed.

Wrapping or crepe paper

Ingestion may cause staining in the mouth which may look alarming, but the toxicity is considered to be low. But if your dog eats a large amount, it may cause an obstruction to the stomach.

Candles

Although candles, even scented ones, are considered to be of low toxicity, ingestion could potentially block the intestine or cause choking.

Potpourri

When eaten, potpourri can cause significant gastrointestinal effects in dogs. These may last several days even after the material has passed through the gut.

Cigarettes

Nicotine is toxic to dogs, and cigarette butts are especially dangerous - so it's important not to leave any ashtrays in reach of dogs over Christmas, or dropped on the floor where they may eat them. Nicotine replacement patches and e-cigarette refills can also pose a risk. Symptoms of poisoning include vomiting, excess saliva and hypertension.

New Year's Eve Safety for Your Pets

Written by **LAUREN JONES, VMD**

New Year's Eve is full of excitement, parties, and new beginnings. While this day may be fun for us, it can be very stressful and loaded with possible toxicities for our pets. Before your champagne corks start popping, take a few minutes to think about keeping your furry four-legged friends safe and healthy during the festivities.

Alcohol

Dogs and cats do not metabolize alcohol the way that people do. The ingestion of even small volumes of alcohol can cause serious damage to the liver, nervous system, and blood glucose (sugar), which could require hospitalization and may be fatal in extreme cases. Many dogs experience acute kidney failure after ingestion of grapes or grape-containing products, such as wine or champagne. Long story short, keep your pets far away from your libations during the celebration! Be sure to contact your local emergency veterinarian if Fido sneaks some of your cocktail.

Fireworks and parties

New Year's Eve goes hand in hand with fireworks and parties. While these may be fun for us, these loud and chaotic events can pose a lot of stress to our furry friends. Some animals run and hide, tremble, have accidents in the house, or bark incessantly. Even though fireworks are unavoidable, you can set up a safe space for your pet with their favorite bed and toys in a quiet, confined area of your home. Avoid taking your dog outside during the fireworks, as this is likely to worsen any anxiety and could result in your dog running off. If your pet seems to be nervous around partygoers in silly hats, masks, or loud noisemakers, it may be best to confine them to their safe space.

Prepare ahead for this noisy evening by taking your dog for a long walk or play with your cat extensively earlier in the day in an attempt to wear them out for the potentially stressful evening. For pets with extreme stress, anxiety-reducing prescription medications from your veterinarian may be necessary. Calming pheromone collars or diffusers, such as **Adaptil®** or **Feliway®**, or **ThunderShirts®** can be helpful for some pets.

Running away

Often due to the stress and anxiety resulting from noisy fireworks and parties, or due to party guests leaving the door open, New Year's Eve is a prime time for dogs and cats to run away. If you are hosting a party, it may be best to keep your pets confined to a smaller area within the house so they can't bolt out the door. In preparation for the New Year, be sure that your pets' **identification tags** and **microchip registrations** are current just in case they slip away!

Food

Parties go hand in hand with plenty of delicious foods for us, but **these foods can be toxic to Rover**. The onions and garlic found in many traditional pork and sauerkraut recipes can injure the red blood cells, chocolate found in many decadent desserts can impact the heart and nervous system, and grapes and raisins can lead to kidney failure in dogs. All of these foods can also cause gastrointestinal upset, resulting in vomiting and diarrhea. Try to feed your pet before the party begins and keep them far away from your scrumptious treats. Don't hesitate to call an emergency veterinarian if your pet eats something he shouldn't!

To the world you are one person, To a rescued animal, you ARE THE WORLD!



Rose and Charming are 2 little sisters who have a little special need - and are 'in need' of a very special kitty loving home. They were born with an eye defect, and Rose has a little 'tummy' issue.

They are on artificial tears (bought at a grocery store) 2x a day and they are on Miralax (also bought at a grocery store) 1x a day just a pinch on their wet food in the morning. Beyond that they are easy peasy to care for. Please consider adopting our two special needs lovelies!! They are 9 month old sweeties and need your help!

They are up to date with routine shots, house-trained, altered, FELV/FIV negative and need to be inside-only cats. Email crazi-catladi@comcast.net for more info. ing.



Buddy: 3 year old male neutered Hound mix. Active. Does well on leash. Sweet and eager to please. Can be excitable. Tends to fixate on cats, staring at them but will not harm them, just stalker-ish. My indoor cats love to rub up against him and walk under him, which he finds embarrassingly repugnant. Plays exuberantly with other dogs, and this can turn into a fight if the other dog tries to be alpha with him. Loves women. Reserved around men. Really likes a good body hug (I call it mugging). Likes to be with you, readily comes back when called. Would like to be a lap dog, tries to climb on you when you are sitting or lying on the floor. Not an escape artist but fence needs to be 6 feet or so. He was found wandering around with a rope tied around his neck, in the Wilton area. When you throw something, he sadly thinks he's the target. For more info on Buddy, call AFC at 209-368-1761



Happy Tails

Jackson has waited 'patiently' for his own home since he was a tiny baby. Finally, at the age of 9 months, he has his own purrmanent home! He and his brother were tiny, fragile bottle babies, barely a week old when they came to us. It was a miracle that they both survived to grown into handsome and healthy cats! Jackson will now have his own 'real' family for the new year! Thanks to all who 'saved' these 2 precious kitties and his new family who adopted him!



Found your email today when I was searching for something else. We still have Hank the black lab we adopted from you in 2011. I don't know if you remember him, but he did turn out to be a great dog, though not a great walker, sniffs too much! According to my records, he was 6 when we got him, so he is probably 14 now. He did have some hip issues in the last few years, but we have put him on natural products and he is great, also a big buddy to our 3 year old poodle mix Julia. Thanks for your support and hope you are still fostering dogs!



Gussie was adopted with us when he was just a kitten. Unfortunately, he was 'returned' to us earlier this year when his family couldn't keep him any longer. Gussie came back to us at the age of 8 years, and was extremely overweight. Our wonderful foster homes worked diligently to get him

on a healthy diet and start slowly start losing a little weight. He also had an unusual flea problem which we had to clear. Gussie is a wonderful, social and loving boy and really needed his own loving home again. Because of his large size, it was a little challenge to show him at the pet stores, but we made it work successfully for him! Luckily, it didn't take him long to work with magic on a new family and have them fall in love with him! Nicki was smitten with him as soon as she saw him, and brought hubby Xavier to meet him. Gussie worked his magic on them both and is now happy in his furever home. Pictured here with one of his new 'siblings' – we think he's happy! Thanks to Nicki and Xavier for giving this big guy a second chance at love!



Cali was a rescued pup covered in fleas and ticks. She weighed only 5 pounds and was fostered by Kathy in Galt. She was soon adopted and this is what her new family wrote:

"She is absolutely a joy! Life is an improvement. Didn't realize how our lives needed her. She was the one we have been waiting for."

Figaro has his own, purrmanent home for the holidays! We are so happy for him! This little guy became a special needs kitty when he started having the 'wobbly' walk at about 6 months of age. He was having mobility issues with his walk for unknown reasons. This was an 'occasional' happening, and we could determine nothing that would set it off. After multiple vet visits and much research, including the cold laser treatments, no definite diagnosis could be determined, and he would still occasionally have his mobility problem. After a few months, it did seem to happen less frequently.

Luckily, Brittany visited the Petco store where Figaro was 'showing' and fell in love with him. We explained his special needs so she was aware of his possible mobility problem, and she didn't care about that! She adopted Figaro, and has made that love connection. Figaro is now about 1 year old, and hasn't had any issues recently. Hopefully, he has outgrown this problem, but regardless, he does have that special, fuurever and loving home!

Thanks so much Brittany for giving this special guy your love and a family!



Winston (now Toby) is a puppy rescued and fostered by Rosie. He came down with parvo and spent some time in the hospital where thankfully he survived. Then for several weeks had to be kept in isolation at the foster home, which was hard for a puppy who wanted to run and play. (The foster mom had several other dogs and had to be careful to keep Winston by himself. After his neuter he was adopted to a lovely family in San Jose area and renamed Toby and they take him camping and everywhere and say he is a very good puppy. They recently sent this pic of Toby saying he earned his AKC STAR puppy award!!

What a happy tale!!



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We accept donations online!
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WISH LIST

Animal Friends Connection Humane Society has many wishes. These wishes are things that can help us do a better job at helping the animals in our adoption/foster network. Also, these wishes can improve or expand our organization to be able to help more homeless animals. Below is a list of our current wishes:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Dog food - Canidae "All Stages" | Collars that are for small Dogs (size's 7-11 and 11-14) we have plenty of large dog collars |
| Dry dog food, Kirkland Chicken & Rice dry dog food (red bag) | Blow dryer to dry dogs after bathing |
| Kirkland rom Costco Natures Domain canned dog food | Postage stamps |
| Cat Food - Felidae dry cat food | Break-away cat collars (or stretch kitten collars) |
| Kirkland dry cat food, Natural Balance or Blue Buffalo or Nutro for the Cats | COT style cat and dog beds, or gently used beds and cots |
| Friskies canned cat food and other higher quality canned cat foods | Smaller twin-size blankets for the dogs that sleep inside |
| Treats for Cats and Dogs (please made in the USA only) – Nutro Greenies are also a good treat for cats (not for dogs) | Small blankets for the cat beds (baby blankets work well) |
| Cat litter – "Litter Perfect" from Costco, or other high quality litter | A handy-person willing to donate time. We need repairs inside and outside, as well as electrical work |
| Cleaning products such as bleach (we go through at least 24 two gallon bottles of bleach every month) | Roll out Lawn to redo the back lawn at the sanctuary |
| Laundry detergent, Pine-sol - mops, brooms- squeegee | Van to transport our dogs and cats |
| Paper towels and toilet paper | Land or a house with a little property, located (if possible) between Stockton and Lodi for a permanent adoption center/shelter. We have outgrown our location. *** |
| Toys for Cats and Dogs (toy's that have a squeaker in them for the Dogs but no stuffing) | |
| Four foot leashes for the Dogs | |

We send our adopted dogs home with smaller blankets that they have slept on for a night or two. People tell us that the dog uses it as their comfort blanket forever, so we are happy to have sent one along. They can sometimes be purchased at places like Walgreens, CVS pharmacy, Target, etc. They can also be made by purchasing fabric, cut in strands at the edges then tied, making a nice double blanket. Girl Scouts and other individuals have made these for us. Please call and we can tell you the size. For more ideas call (209) 365-0535. Cash donations are always needed and appreciated so we can purchase other necessary items.

Animal Friends Connection Humane Society

Gratefully acknowledges donors that have assisted us in maintaining our commitment to the health and welfare of animals in our area

April 2018 - November 2019

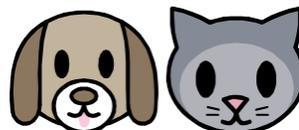
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DJ Kara Franklin		Wendy & Michelle Sandoval	Robert Yamaguchi

Spotlight on Youth

Evan Olsen has once again raised \$3,500 this year which was matched by an anonymous donor.

Thank you Evan you Rock!



Adopt
your next best friend!

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All my animal friends
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Kathleen Ray

Carmelita & Bunny

Nan Waters of
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Animal Friends Connection sincerely apologizes for any errors made in posting your dedications

Animal Friends Connection Humane Society is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit that is dedicated to Humane Education and the promotion of spaying and neutering.

Donations can be sent to

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All gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law.

You can designate your United Way contribution to our organization. EIN # 68-0315789

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No registration is required.



Add <http://www.escrip.com/> to your favorites then shop and dine out and Animal Friends Connection will benefit!!

Waggin' Tails Winter 2019



**Animal Friends Connection
Humane Society**

Promoting Compassion Toward All Creatures
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**For more information contact
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