

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!!

Christmas Pet Safety:

The last thing any pet owner wants to do on Christmas Eve is rush their pet to the emergency room! But, the truth is that many pets are injured or poisoned during the holiday season. How can you make sure your holiday doesn't end in disaster?

During the holidays, most animal related ER visits are due to eating something inappropriate. Some foods cause upset stomachs, some are poisonous, and some can cause life-threatening obstructions.

We know that 60% of us will share our holiday meal with our pets, but you should follow a few basic guidelines.

A small amount of white turkey is an acceptable treat but definitely avoid the turkey skin and the turkey bones! The skin is often fatty and can cause pets to develop pancreatitis, a painful inflammation of the pet's pancreas.

Poultry bones, especially cooked, have potential to both break off and cause a perforation of the digestive tract or, if large amounts are consumed, could cause an obstruction.

Other foods to avoid include: grapes and raisins, excessively salty foods, foods flavored with onion or garlic powder, desserts and sweets containing Xylitol, and chocolates. All leftovers should be secured behind a pet-proof door.

Remember to keep your trash can secure. Many items used in the meal preparation and then thrown away can be dangerous. A turkey string, foil wrappers, etc may smell like food and be eaten by a curious pet.

Decorative plants are also a source of danger. Mistletoe and holly can cause vomiting and lilies are often deadly to cats. Some holiday decorations are also dangerous. Ribbons and tinsel are especially attractive and hazardous to cats. Keep an eye on electrical cords to insure puppies and kittens don't chew on them.

During family gatherings, it might be best to keep pets confined if they are overly anxious. Also, monitor people going in and out of the front door. Pets might take advantage and try to escape.

Keep your veterinarian's phone number and the local animal emergency hospital handy. A quick call to either of them can give you life-saving advice or even help you avoid a trip to the ER.

Christmas Day:

Christmas is a joyous occasion, but did you know that Christmas Day can be the most dangerous day for your dog? According to Veterinary Pet Insurance, last year more than 200 of their policyholders found themselves in the vet's office due to an accidental injury to their dog or their dog ate something they should not have eaten. The top 5 reasons dogs visited a vet on Christmas Day last year were:

1. Gastritis / Enteritis
2. Lacerations or bite wounds
3. Soft tissue trauma
4. Foreign body ingestion
5. Chocolate poisoning

You can avoid having to make a trip to the vet on Christmas Day by keeping your dog away from the holiday decorations and by not allowing your dog to eat any food intended for people.

Remember, your dog is curious by nature and can get into trouble at any time! There are a few holiday safety precautions you can take to ensure that both you and your dog have a safe and merry Christmas.

Christmas Treats for the Pups!

Good dog cookies*:



- 2 ½ cups whole wheat flour
- ¾ cup nonfat dry milk powder
- 1 egg, beaten
- ½ cup vegetable oil
- 2 cubes sodium free beef bouillon
- ¾ cup boiling water
- 2 tbsps brown sugar

Preheat oven to 300 degrees F (150 degrees C). Lightly grease one cookie sheet.

Dissolve bouillon cubes in boiling water and allow to cool.

Combine the flour, dry milk, egg, oil, beef broth and brown sugar. Mix well and knead dough for 1 minute.

On a floured surface roll out dough to about 1/4 inch thickness. Cut out bones and place on cookie sheet.

Bake for 30 minutes and allow to cool.

** Not recommended for pets with allergies. Please review all ingredients before making treats for your pet.*

FOR ADOPTION:



Garfield

Romeo

Elmo

Rewards:

The East-West Animal Hospital Rewards Card helps us reward valuable clients like you with products from our hospital and other local retailers, remember one dollar spent is one point. The best part of the program is that you earn **500** points when you refer other clients to our hospital so that they can also receive the highest level of care.



Urine-Off Cat Formula – Urine-Off Dog Formula

East-West Animal Hospital is also pleased to announce that we now carry Urine-Off, A veterinary strength Odor and Stain Removal for Cats and Dogs.

Pet Odor Eliminator:

East-West Animal Hospital is pleased to announce that we now carry the Full line of Pet Odor Eliminator products; Including Air Fresheners, Candles, and Room Sprays. The flavor of the month is:

Cracklin'
Fireside



Rooms and Relics:



Stop by Rooms and Relics for your fall and holiday decor! We specialize in a Fine Collection of: Furniture, Home Decor, Antiques, and Collectibles. 813-948-3855.

G.R.E.A.T.:

Greyhound Rescue and Adoptions Tampa Bay has ornaments on our tree this year! Each one is hand-made especially for the receiver by one of their foster mom's or dad's. Please donate to G.R.E.A.T. this holiday season and receive an ornament. G.R.E.A.T. will also be at the Carrollwood Barnes-N-Nobles doing free gift wrapping for your convenience. Please help us in the cause to find these great hounds an amazing forever home!

Toys for Tots: (US Marine Corps)

The primary goal of Toys for Tots is to deliver, through a new toy at Christmas, a message of hope to less fortunate youngsters that will assist them in becoming responsible, productive, patriotic citizens.

Donate today through December 28th.

Kitty-City Tree:

Last year, East-West displayed and dedicated a tree to Kitty City in the Lobby. On this tree, there were many pets with various needs written on small paper ornaments. Come have a look at our tree, and give to the less fortunate animals in the Lutz/Land O' Lakes area.

Holiday Hours:

We will be open the Friday before Christmas. However, we will be closed the Monday after Christmas, December 26th, 2011 and the Monday after New Year's Day, January, 2nd, 2012.

Kitty City Basket:

East-West Animal Hospital is hosting a raffle for a wonderful wine basket. Raffle tickets are 1 for 1\$ or 5 for 6 \$. You can also obtain raffle tickets by making a gift or monetary donation to Kitty City. Please stop by the office to get your tickets!



Contact:

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Emergencies (8p-6a):

Tampa Bay VES
813-265-4043
238 E Bearss Ave
Tampa, FL 33613

Office Hours:

Monday and Friday: 7.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.
Tues, Wed, and Thurs: 7.30 a.m. to 8.00 p.m.
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