

PET SAFETY CHECKLIST

Wag'N wants to help you answer 'YES' to these preparedness questions and more.

YES NO

- Do you have a Wag'N® Pet First Aid Kit?
- You see an empty box of chocolates next to your dog, and he is seizing. Do you know what to do?
- Do you have an all-season, all-hazards evacuation and shelter in place plan that involves your pet(s)?
- Do you have a plan to keep your pets from ornaments, candles and yew?
- Do you have a "No children, No pets" policy in your kitchen when cooking the holiday meal?
- Do you have the name & phone number of your veterinarian and emergency veterinary clinic listed in your cell phone phonebook?
- Do you carry a Wag'N Pet Passport® for each pet and carry it everywhere you go - keeping immunization records and proof of ownership information handy?
- Do you have Wag'N Home Alert Stickers displayed at your residence's entrances - letting first responders know you have pet(s) inside in case of a residential fire?
- Do you know if your local fire department carries Pet Oxygen Masks? (Wag'N O2 Fur Life® can help you save pet lives in your community.) Learn More at www.WAGN4U.com/O2FurLife

www.WAGN4U.com

Wag'N Offers Pet Parents and First Responders The Necessary Gear, Supplies and Training To Effectively Mitigate, Prepare, and Respond To Emergencies That Impact Pet Health and Safety.

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Special Holidays Pet Safety Hazards

WAG'N ENTERPRISES, LLC
DEFINING PET EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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Special Holiday Pet Safety Hazards

The holidays are a great time to get together with family and friends to share good food and company. It is easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of preparing gifts, decorations, meals and sleeping arrangements (for those of us hosting family members and their 4-legged companions). Lets take a few minutes to ensure the safety of pets (visiting and live-in) this holiday season by reviewing some pet hazards.

Hazardous Foods

Raisins, grapes and sultanas (used in Christmas Cake recipes)

Ingestions of grapes and raisins have been associated with acute kidney failure in dogs. Some dogs initially vomit and begin drinking large amounts of water, then subsequently develop diarrhea & life-threatening kidney failure.

Macademia nuts

In dogs, ingestions can produce vomiting, weakness (particularly in the hind legs), depression, lack of coordination and tremors.

Foods sweetened with Xylitol, sweets and candy

Candy, gum and other sweets containing large amounts of the sweetener xylitol can produce a sudden drop in blood sugar resulting in depression, lack of coordination and even seizures. Candy wrappers can cause gastrointestinal irritation and could lead to an intestinal blockage.

Onions and avocados

Dogs develop hemolytic anemia if they eat enough **onions**. The quantity of onions required is high enough that dogs can generally tolerate small doses of onions without any problem and moderate amounts of onion without clinically apparent disease, even though there may be measurable changes on lab test results. **Avocados** contain a toxic component called persin, which can damage heart, lung and other tissue in many animals. They are high in fat and can trigger stomach upset, vomiting and even pancreatitis.

Chocolate and liquorices

Chocolate contains theobromine. A naturally occurring stimulant found in the cocoa bean, theobromine increases urination and affects the central nervous system as well as heart muscle.

Alcoholic Beverages

Never leave alcoholic drinks unattended or where pets can reach them. If ingested, alcohol can potentially result in vomiting, diarrhea, lack of coordination, central nervous system depression, difficulty breathing, tremors, acidosis, coma and even death. Also do NOT feed pets cooled drippings and/or fatty left overs as the combination of human seasonings and rich stock can easily upset your pet's digestive system.

HOUSEHOLD POISONS

Yule logs are popular in the holiday season. These logs contain heavy metal salts, which are toxic to pets if ingested. Also, as the temperatures decrease non-invited little guests such as mice can show their snout. Out comes the "**mouse bait**." Be very careful with these poisons as accidental pet ingestion is disastrous. The ingredients have become much more deadly and longer acting and the packaging has become more attractive to pets. Consider using one of the various mouse traps or ultrasonic devices available on the market. As a general rule keep labeled household cleaners and chemicals out of the reach of pets and children.

Additional substances with low toxicity that may cause drooling, vomiting or diarrhea include: Blu-tack or other similar adhesives (used to put up decorations); charcoal and coal; cut-flower & houseplant nutrients; expanded polystyrene foam (used for packing large electronics); matches (sulfur); wax candles & crayons as well as silica gel (often found in packaging)

Trees and Decorations

NATURAL DECORATIONS

Pine needles pose a great danger to pets. They may get lodged in an animal's esophagus, making for painful and difficult swallowing. Mistletoe may get you kissed, but should your pet consume this holiday green it will likely cause a drop in blood pressure, vomiting and a swollen throat. Other holiday foliage, including **Holly and Poinsettias**, contain toxins that could lead to severe stomach problems, as well as skin, mouth and eye irritation. Worse yet, **Yew** is extremely toxic, and one mouthful could be deadly.

HOLIDAY TREE HAZARDS

Some pets like to drink tree water, which can be dangerous. The problem lies in fertilizers that may have been added to the water, which can cause diarrhea and vomiting, as well as certain types of pine sap that are poisonous. Furthermore, **stagnant water** at the base of the tree can have extremely high bacterial content, which can cause similar side effects as fertilizers and sap. Old artificial trees may release toxic fumes if placed near heat (like a fireplace or space heater).

ARTIFICIAL DECORATIONS, LIGHTS & CANDLES

Make sure that you do not leave any **tinsel, ribbon and ornament hooks** where they may be accessible to your furry pals. Pretty **glass ornaments** may resemble tennis balls, ingestion of which may be fatal. Wag'N also recommends you keep candles and open flames away from pets and children. A "No pet, No child kitchen" policy should be considered to mitigate kitchen burns. Do not overload electrical outlets. Make sure to secure/tape down all exposed cords to prevent accidents.



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