



Preventing pet poisoning

What every pet owner needs to know

Many common household items such as plants, foods and chemicals can be harmful to your pet if ingested. Be informed so that you're prepared if you find yourself in a pet poisoning emergency.

Top 10 toxin calls

received by Pet Poison Helpline

Cats

1. Lilies
2. Topical flea and tick medicine for dogs (containing pyrethroids and pyrethrins)
3. Household cleaners
4. Antidepressant medications
5. Mouse and rat poisons
6. Ibuprofen and acetaminophen
7. Glow sticks/glow jewelry
8. Amphetamines such as ADD/ADHD drugs
9. Decongestant medications
10. Essential oils

Dogs

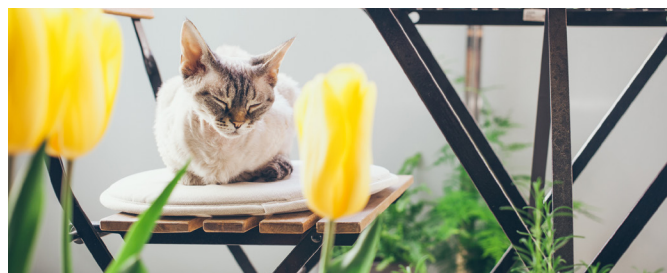
1. Chocolate
2. Mouse and rat poisons
3. Ibuprofen and acetaminophen
4. Xylitol (found in sugar-free gums and candies)
5. Vitamin D (ingested in large amounts)
6. Antidepressant medications
7. Fertilizers
8. Grapes and raisins
9. Decongestant medications
10. Caffeine (pills and drinks)

Poisonous plants

Many plants are poisonous to animals, but the following are some of the most common—and some can even be lethal.

- Autumn crocus (*Colchicum autumnale*)
- Azalea & rhododendron
- Cycad/sago palms (*Cycas*, *Macrozamia* and *Zamia* spp.)
- Dieffenbachia
- Lily (*Lilium* and *Heimerocallis* spp.)—cats only
- Lily of the Valley (*Convallaria majalis*)
- Oleander (*Nerium oleander*)
- Spring bulbs (e.g. daffodil, hyacinth, tulip, spring crocus)
- Yesterday, today and tomorrow (*Brunfelsia* spp.)
- Yew (*Taxus* spp.)

For a more complete listing of poisonous plants, visit petpoisonhelpline.com.



Garden dangers

Be a garden guardian and keep these substances away from pets.

- Baits (rodent, snail and slug)
- Blood meal
- Bone meal
- Fertilizers (rose and other plants)
- Pesticides

Be prepared

- ✓ Program your phone with numbers for:
 - Your veterinarian
 - 24-hr emergency veterinarian
 - Pet Poison Helpline (855-289-0358)
- ✓ Save a note in your phone with your pet's weight and current medications
- ✓ Sign up for Nationwide pet insurance coverage

Household toxins

When using common household chemicals such as cleaning solutions, antifreeze and fragrance sprays, make sure there's adequate ventilation and thoroughly wipe up any spills. Also, tightly close bottles and containers, and stow them safely in cabinets that pets can't get into.

Non-ingested poisons

Poisons aren't always ingested; some can be inhaled or cause chemical burns on the skin.

Inhaled poisons: Carbon monoxide, smoke and chemical fumes

Skin poisons: Ammonia, lye, drain and toilet cleaners, concentrated tea tree oil

Toxic table scraps

Though sharing "just a bite" of food with your pet seems harmless, many human foods can be dangerous—even deadly—for dogs and cats.

- Alcohol
- Fatty foods
- Chocolate
- Caffeine
- Grapes and raisins
- Macadamia nuts

Human medications

Never give your pet human medications like ibuprofen (Advil®, Motrin®), naproxen (Aleve®), or combination allergy products with decongestants or "cold and flu" formulations. These drugs can cause liver, kidney and neurological damage to pets.

Keep human drugs in a separate place from your pet's drugs. Accidentally giving human meds to pets is one of the most common pet poisoning emergencies.

Pet medications

Never give your cat medications meant for a dog. Cats' unique metabolic pathways make them more sensitive to many drugs; giving your cat pain relievers or flea/tick meds made for dogs can be lethal.

Pet Poison Helpline

If you think your pet may have ingested something harmful, seek immediate veterinary advice:

855-289-0358

Available 24/7

Please be advised that a one-time, per-incident consultation fee applies.

Have the following information ready when calling:

- What your pet ingested and when
- How much your pet ingested (how many pills, milligram strength, etc.)
- Pet's current weight
- Pet's known medical history, including medications

What to do in an emergency

Stay calm so you can assess the situation and communicate clearly with your veterinarian. Most importantly, don't administer at-home treatment without first seeking veterinary advice.

Scan the surroundings

- Safely remove any remaining poisonous material from your pet's reach
- Gather the container or substance to bring to the veterinary hospital or describe to Pet Poison Helpline
- Collect a sample if your pet has vomited

Get help

If your pet is unconscious, convulsing or having difficulty breathing, go immediately to the nearest emergency veterinary hospital. While they are stabilizing your pet, call Pet Poison Helpline at **855-289-0358** for treatment recommendations.

We're here to help

Nationwide® offers pet insurance coverage for accidents, illnesses and preventive care.
Get a fast, no-obligation quote today.

This educational pamphlet is provided by Nationwide in coordination with Pet Poison Helpline, an animal poison control center based out of Minneapolis, Minn. Driven by our shared passion for pets, our common goal is to provide pet lovers with valuable information on pet health and safety.

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A per incident fee applies.

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