



TRICK OR TREAT!?

HALLOWEEN HAZARDS THAT LAND PETS IN SURGERY

**WE ARE
OPEN 24/7
FOR
EMERGENCIES!**

Halloween is a thrilling time for costumes, candy, and spooky fun, but it can also be a risky holiday for our furry friends. At Animal Specialty & Emergency Center of Brevard, we see firsthand how Halloween hazards can quickly turn into emergency surgeries. Here's what every pet owner should know to keep their companions safe this Halloween.

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animalspecialtyemergencycenter.com

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CANDY: SWEET DANGER

Chocolate and many sugar-free candies can be toxic to pets.

- Chocolate contains theobromine, which is harmful to dogs and cats. Even a small amount of dark chocolate can trigger vomiting, rapid heartbeat, seizures, or worse.
- Xylitol, a common sugar substitute in sugar-free gum, candy, and baked goods, can cause severe drops in blood sugar and liver failure in dogs.

Tip: Keep all candy out of reach and educate trick-or-treaters not to feed your pets.

DECORATIONS = TEMPTATION

Halloween decorations can be intriguing but hazardous for pets.

- Jack-o'-lanterns: Candles can lead to burns if knocked over.
- Artificial cobwebs and tinsel: Can cause blockages if swallowed.
- Glow sticks and batteries: Toxic if punctured or ingested.

Tip: Keep decorations out of paw's reach and supervise your pet in decorated areas.

COSTUMES: MORE THAN CUTE

Dressing up your pet can be adorable, but costumes can pose dangers if they are restrictive or have small, chewable parts.

- Tight-fitting outfits may interfere with breathing or mobility.
- Small buttons, beads, or ribbons can be ingested, causing intestinal blockages that often require surgery.
- Masks or headpieces can obstruct vision or hearing, causing panic or accidents.

Tip: If your pet isn't comfortable in a costume, skip it. A festive bandana is a safer alternative.

PARTIES & TRICK-OR-TREATERS

Crowded houses, strangers, and loud noises can cause pets to panic. Stress may lead to escape attempts, fights, or injury.

Tip: Provide a quiet, safe space where your pet can relax away from the Halloween chaos.

WHEN IN DOUBT, CALL ASEC! WE'RE HERE 24/7

If your pet ingests chocolate, xylitol, decorations, or shows signs of choking, vomiting, seizures, or lethargy, **call our 24/7 emergency team immediately**. Early intervention can be lifesaving, and some situations may require emergency surgery.