

Kirkton Veterinary Clinic

Winter 2013

www.kirktonvetclinic.com

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS

As we prepare for the holiday season, keep in mind some holiday pet hazards...

Lights and Cords

Pets, especially younger ones, may want to bite or chew on extra electric cords. This can lead to electrocution. Try to keep cords out of reach or protected.

Ornaments and tinsel

Ingestion of ornaments and tinsel can result in gastric foreign bodies if the object fails to pass through the animal. Keep out of reach or barricade off decorated areas.

Monitor for repeated

vomiting, lethargy and changes in appetite.

Tree water

Most of the water additives to keep our Christmas tree healthy are toxic if ingested. Cover the bucket/stand to prevent your pet from drinking this water.

Mistletoe and Holly

These plants are severely toxic if ingested. Keep out of reach.

Poinsettia

Ingestion of the plant causes mild gastritis and vomiting. Keep out of reach.

Chocolate

Chocolate is quite toxic to dogs and cats. Toxicity depends on the type and amount ingested. Keep out of reach.

Macadamia Nuts

These nuts are toxic to dogs and cats. Incoordination, tremors, vomiting can occur.

Fatty foods

Over indulgence by dogs can result in a severe condition, pancreatitis. Keep your dog on his regular diet through the holidays and ensure guests know not to feed your pets. Monitor for repeat

vomiting, abdominal pain and lethargy.

Anti-freeze

This liquid has a sweet taste that can be appealing to cats and dogs. Ingestion results in kidney failure. Be sure to keep out of reach and immediately clean up or dispose of any waste liquid. Call your veterinarian immediately if ingestion occurs.

Be sure to contact your veterinarian as soon as possible if your pet ingests a toxic substance or if they show signs of illness or injury.

HOLIDAY HOURS

DEC 23
8 am - 6 pm

DEC 24
8 am - 2 pm

DEC 25
Closed

DEC 26
Closed

DEC 27
8 am - 6 pm

DEC 30
8 am - 6 pm

DEC 31
8 am - 2 pm

JAN 1
Closed

JAN 2
8 am - 6 pm



Winterize Your Pets

Protect those paw

Paws can be easily damaged in the winter:

- Sharp ice can cut and irritate.
- Salt and other chemical de-icers can be very irritating and drying.
- Frostbite - animals can get frost bite too! Especially small breed dogs and dogs with short, fine coats.

Paw protection:

- Booties!! - Booties can offer great protection. However, not all booties are created equal so shop and compare. Be sure they fit your dog well so you don't lose them in the snow and look for ones with good underside grip so your pet doesn't slip.
- Can't keep boots on, try using cooking oil or Vaseline to protect the feet and be sure to wash and dry the feet thoroughly after walks.
- Check paws daily for evidence of cuts, abrasions or cracking and contact your vet with any concerns.



Coats and sweaters

More than just cute! Extra layers can keep your pet warm and dry:

- For small, under weight and short coated animals, a sweater or quilted jacket can be needed to keep warm.
- For larger animals, even those with long coats, a thin but water resistant layer can help your pet from getting wet and chilled.



Farewell to Dr. Carly Telfer

Dr. Carly Telfer has hung up her KVC hat and returned to her roots. After five years providing excellent care for our equine and small animal companions, Carly and her husband Daniel have decided to move closer to their family to share in the joys of their new son Max. Carly has enjoyed her time with us and sends holiday greetings to all of her clients, who she will miss dearly! Although we will miss Carly's smiling face in the office, we wish her well on all her endeavors and continued success in her career.