



HOLIDAY PET SAFETY 101

Food, family, friends and celebration. It's holiday time! But, how do our pets handle it? Some of the simple things we take part in over the holidays can often be hazardous to our pets' health, from food to decorations.

"There are 10 common hazards that pet owners should be aware of at this time of year," says Doctor Doug Aspros, president of the American Veterinary Medical Association. "If you keep these at the top of your mind and away from your pet, everyone will enjoy the holidays free from trips to the emergency clinic."

Table scraps: Mother was right; don't feed the dog under the table.

Candy: There are a number of things about candy that are bad for pets, but among the worst is the wrapper.

Decorative injuries: The decorations you set up around the house may look great, but they could be a source of injury for your pets.

Tasty decorations: Some decorations are so pretty that they look good enough to eat.

Flowers and plants: Many times we put out new plants, flowers or trimmings, depending on the holiday, and these can be poisonous and deadly.

Chocolate: Chocolate is a big part of many holiday celebrations, but not for pets.



Sugar-free snacks: Xylitol is a common artificial sweetener in baked goods and sugar-free gum and candy. It's also poisonous for dogs.

Guests: Many pets can become downright panicked when faced with a lot of new visitors.

Candles: A lit candle can provide a real hazard.

Pets as presents: The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) advises against giving pets as presents, because the recipient doesn't have the opportunity to have an active role in selecting the animal.

Keep these simple tips in mind so that you and your beloved pets all have a safe and happy holiday.

By the way...

I hope this information has been helpful to you. If you know someone who could also benefit from this type of information, or who is in need of a trusted real estate advisor, please forward their contact information to me so I can get in touch with them. I'm never too busy for your referrals.