

COMMON DANGERS FOR PETS

There are many everyday items that can be toxic or harmful to our pets. Below is a list of **some** of these items and why they can be dangerous:

FOOD

- **Chocolate:** Cooking chocolate and cocoa powder are the most toxic, followed by dark, semi-sweet and milk chocolate. Obviously the toxicity is greater for smaller the dog, or if larger quantity are ingested. Keep all types of chocolate out of your dog's reach.
- **Grapes and Raisins:** Can cause acute renal failure.
- **Macadamia Nuts:** Raw or roasted macadamia nuts cause painful muscle weakness, tremors, and paralysis. Dogs can be affected by eating as few as six nuts, and may also be affected by macadamia butter.
- **Onions, Chives and Garlic:** Contains thiosulphate which is toxic to cats and dogs.
- **Cooked Bones:** After cooking, bones become brittle and may splinter. These splinters may cause choking, or may even puncture or become embedded in the intestinal tract or stomach. **Turkey and chicken bones are especially dangerous**
- **Raw Bones:** Can also splinter and carry dangerous bacteria.
- **Fruits:** Cherries, apricot and apple seeds, pear seeds, peach seed pits, plum seeds. These seeds contain cyanogenic glycosides which causes cyanide poisoning.
- **Corn on the Cob:** Can cause fatal intestinal blockages.
- **Hops:** Can cause panting, elevated temperature, increased heart rate, seizures and possibly death.
- **Mushrooms/Toadstools:** Different types of fungi can have varied effects on pets such as, depression, diarrhoea, nausea and vomiting, abdominal pain, tearing, hallucinations, defecation, liver failure, seizures, drooling, urination, kidney failure, heart damage, hyperactivity and in some cases, death.
- **Yeast Dough:** Can be dangerous as it will expand and result in gas, pain and possible rupture of the stomach or intestines.

PLANTS

- **Daffodils (Bulb, Leaf or Flower):** Can cause vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, salivation and lethargy. In severe cases following ingestion on large amounts collapse, tremors or convulsions.
- **Lilies:** Can cause renal failure in cats.

- **Poinsettias:** Can cause vomiting, salivation, diarrhoea, abdominal pain and high temperature.
- **Holly:** Causes vomiting, diarrhoea and salivation.
- **Mistletoe:** Causes vomiting, diarrhoea and salivation.
- **Honeysuckle:** Common effects include vomiting, diarrhoea, depression and lethargy.
- **Horse Chestnuts:** Can cause vomiting, diarrhoea, salivation, abdominal pain, muscle tremors, partial paralysis and obstruction in the gastrointestinal tract.
- **Blue Green Algae:** Can cause vomiting, breathing difficulties, collapse and death.

OTHER PRODUCTS

- **Antifreeze:** Common effects include central nervous system signs, wobbliness, sickness, convulsions, kidney failure and death can occur.
- **Rat Poison:** Clinical effects can be delayed for up to 1-5 days. Effects can include bleeding from the nose, gums, bowel and any wounds. Pale gums, weakness, depression, convulsion and death can occur.
- **Slug Pellets:** Shaking, twitching, coma and in some cases death.
- **Permethrin (Pet Shop Flea Treatment):** Some pet shop flea treatments can be highly toxic to cats.
- **Paracetamol/Aspirin:** These should not be given to our pets and are toxic to cats.

If you think your pet has ingested any of the above then please contact your surgery as soon as possible. The earlier we can start treatment the more chance we have of saving your pet.

Please contact your nearest surgery immediately:

Tetts Farm
West Street
Hinton St George
Somerset
TA17 8SB

01460 73398

or

The Surgery
St Michael Rd
Somerset
Creech St Michael
TA3 5DP

01823 444234