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# **PET POISONS**



# **Toxic and Non-Toxic Plants**

This list contains plants that have been reported to effect multiple organs, the entire body, and/or intense effects on the gastrointestinal tract of animals. Please note that the information contained in our plant lists is not meant to include all plants, but rather a compilation of the most frequently encountered plants. If you think that your animal is ill or may have ingested a poisonous substance, contact your local veterinarian or our 24-hour emergency poison hotline directly at 1-888-426-4435.

#### **CLICK BELOW FOR PRINTABLE**

<u>LIST OF TOXIC AND NON-TOXIC PLANTS - DOGS</u> <u>LIST OF TOXIC AND NON-TOXIC PLANTS - CATS</u> <u>LIST OF TOXIC AND NON-TOXIC PLANTS - HORSES</u>

### **Top 10 Plants Poisonous To Pets**



# 5 FOODS THAT ARE TOXIC TO DOGS





#### **GRAPES & RAISINS**

can cause irreversible kidney damage! While some dogs may ingest them without showing symptoms, they are still harmful! It is recommended that your dogs avoid them.



XYLITOL is an artificial sweetener used in candy, but it is also becoming prevalent in other products like peanut butter. Always read food labels and keep anything with Xylitol out of paw's reach.



**ONIONS** can cause anemia and harm red blood cells. Since they are used in a variety of dishes, it's important to keep those foods away from dogs, especially ones that can reach the counter.



in small amounts may be okay for dogs, but they contain a toxin called Persin which causes vomiting, diarrhea, and heart problems. Also the pit can cause intestinal blockage.



**CHOCOLATE** is well known as a toxic food for dogs, but it remains one of the most common causes of poisoning. NEVER give a dog any amount of chocolate or products that contain it.

# More People Foods to Avoid Feeding Your Pets

ASPCA nutrition experts have put together a handy list of the top toxic people foods to avoid feeding your pet. As always, if you suspect your pet has eaten any of the following foods, please note the amount ingested and contact your veterinarian or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center at (888) 426-4435.

**Alcoholic** beverages and food products containing alcohol can cause vomiting, diarrhea, decreased coordination, central nervous system depression, difficulty breathing, tremors, abnormal blood acidity, coma and even death. Under no circumstances should your pet be given any alcohol. If you suspect that your pet has ingested alcohol, contact your veterinarian or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center immediately.

#### Coffee and Caffeine

These products all contain substances called methylxanthines, which are found in cacao seeds, the fruit of the plant used to make coffee, and in the nuts of an extract used in some sodas. When ingested by pets, methylxanthines can cause vomiting and diarrhea, panting, excessive thirst and urination, hyperactivity, abnormal heart rhythm, tremors, seizures and even death.

#### Citrus

The stems, leaves, peels, fruit and seeds of citrus plants contain varying amounts of citric acid, essential oils that can cause irritation and possibly even central nervous system depression if ingested in significant amounts. Small doses, such as eating the fruit, are not likely to present problems beyond minor stomach upset.

#### Coconut and Coconut Oil

When ingested in small amounts, coconut and coconut-based products are not likely to cause serious harm to your pet. The flesh and milk of fresh coconuts do contain oils that may cause stomach upset, loose stools or diarrhea. Because of this, we encourage you to use caution when offering your pets these foods. Coconut water is high in potassium and should not be given to your pet.

#### Milk and Dairy

Because pets do not possess significant amounts of lactase (the enzyme that breaks down lactose in milk), milk and other dairy-based products cause them diarrhea or other digestive upset.

**Nuts, including almonds, pecans, and walnuts**, contain high amounts of oils and fats. The fats can cause vomiting and diarrhea, and potentially pancreatitis in pets. **Macadamia nuts** can cause weakness, depression, vomiting, tremors and hyperthermia in dogs. Signs usually appear within 12 hours of ingestion and can last approximately 12 to 48 hours.

#### Garlic, Chives

These vegetables and herbs can cause gastrointestinal irritation and could lead to red blood cell damage. Although cats are more susceptible, dogs are also at risk if a large enough amount is consumed. Toxicity is normally diagnosed through history, clinical signs and microscopic confirmation of Heinz bodies.

# Raw/Undercooked Meat, Eggs and Bones

Raw meat and raw eggs can contain bacteria such as Salmonella and E. coli that can be harmful to pets and humans. Raw eggs contain an enzyme called avidin that decreases the absorption of biotin (a B vitamin), which can lead to skin and coat problems. Feeding your pet raw bones may seem like a natural and healthy option that might occur if your pet lived in the wild. However, this can be very dangerous for a domestic pet, who might choke on bones, or sustain a grave injury should the bone splinter and become lodged in or puncture your pet's digestive tract.

# Salt and Salty Snack Foods

Large amounts of salt can produce excessive thirst and urination, or even sodium ion poisoning in pets. Signs that your pet may have eaten too many salty foods include vomiting, diarrhea, depression, tremors, elevated body temperature, seizures and even death. As such, we encourage you to avoid feeding saltheavy snacks like potato chips, pretzels, and salted popcorn to your pets.

**Yeast dough** can rise and cause gas to accumulate in your pet's digestive system. This can be painful and can cause the stomach to bloat, and potentially twist, becoming a life threatening emergency. The yeast produce ethanol as a by-product and a dog ingesting raw bread dough can become drunk (See alcohol).



# **Poisonous Household Products**



Have you ever wondered if a particular household cleaning product or human medication is poisonous to your pets? The ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center (APCC) has provided the following guide for knowing which cleaning products, human medications and cosmetic items to keep out of your pet's reach.

Please remember that this guide is for general information only, and is not intended to help assess or manage animal exposures, or any subsequent time-sensitive medical issues. If you suspect your pet has been exposed to any poisonous substances, contact your veterinarian or call APCC's hotline at (888) 426-4435 immediately.

Household Products: Human Medications and Cosmetics

- Bleach
- Carpet Fresheners
  - Carpet Shampoo
  - Essential Oils
  - Fabric Softener Sheets
  - Febreze
  - Grout
  - Swiffer Wet Jet
  - Toilet Cleaning Tablets
  - Vinegar and Water

- AdderalPetroleum Jelly
- Aspirin, Baby Aspirin
- Avon Skin So Soft
- Avon Skin So Soil
- Bar Soap and Face Wash
- Breath Fresheners
- Cigarettes and Nicotine Patches
- E-cigarette liquid
- Grapeseed Oil
- Ibuprofen and Naproxen
- Kaopectate and Pepto Bismol
- Mosquito Repellent
- Pseudoephedrine (& other nasal decongestants)
- Sorbitol
- Topical Creams/Ointments

# What To Do If Your Pet Has Been Poisoned

Step 1: Evaluate

Identify what toxin your pet was exposed to or ingested. Find the label, active ingredients, and the quantity ingested or exposed to. Remove any additional toxin out of reach. Evaluate your pet's symptoms. Even if your pet is acting normal, toxin exposure may still have occurred. Once you have gathered information on the type of poison your pet has ingested (Plant, Food, Medication, etc) follow Step 2.

Step 2: Call the Pet Poison Helpline or ASPCA Poison Control Center

Pet Poison Hotline (855-213-6680)

Once you have gathered info one, contact the Pet Poison Helpline at 1-855-213-6680. They can determine if the exposure is considered toxic, and if additional treatment is necessary. For ingested toxins, induction of vomiting is commonly performed, but can be contraindicated in some toxins (such as with hydrocarbons, batteries, corrosives, etc) or in some conditions (neurologic symptoms, respiratory difficulty, etc). For contact toxins, bathing with liquid dish soap is often necessary.

Or contact The ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center (APCC) is your best resource for any animal poison-related emergency, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. If you think your pet may have ingested a potentially poisonous substance, call (888) 426-4435.

A \$65 consultation fee may be applied to your credit card. Their Poison Control experts have also provided valuable information below to help parents recognize and protect their pets from poisonous substances including plants, human foods, human medications and more. (You can download the ASPCA Pet Poison App to your phone.) http://www.aspca.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/apcc-mobile-app



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Step 3: Do NOT give anything unless instructed to

Many people will think they are helping their pet by giving home remedies they may have heard of before, such as milk, salt, aspirin, etc. Adverse reactions to these home remedies can sometimes be more significant than the toxicity itself. Stay calm and do not give anything to your pet unless instructed to by a veterinarian.



Step 4: Get Help

If further treatment is required, transport your pet to your veterinarian, or the closest veterinary emergency facility. Have someone safely watch your pet while driving in order to prevent distraction. Some special guidelines may be necessary to prevent human exposure to certain toxins, such as zinc phosphide or flammable materials.

Source(s): Preventing Pet Poisoning Emergencies. Pet Education Series. VPI Pet Insurance and Pet Poison Helpline.



