

Halloween can be a dangerous and scary time for pets. Each Halloween, dogs and cats, as well as other household pets, are exposed to tons of sweet treats, changes in household décor, and altered routines that can be stressful. Here are tips to help keep pets safe during this busy time and avoid a scary visit to the ER.

HIDE THE SWEETS

Candy, especially chocolates, can cause pancreatitis and even intestinal blockages if ingested with the wrapper. Chocolate is toxic to dogs, so be sure to never leave trick-or-treat bags on floors, low chairs or coffee tables.

KEEP PETS AWAY FROM THE DOOR

The front door could open dozens of times for trick-or-treaters, which gives pets lots of chances to slip out and possibly get lost or hit by a car. Keep pets in a separate room away from the door.

MICROCHIP YOUR PET

Even with precautions, there's still a chance your pet can get outside. Microchipping will help ensure that your dog or cat is found and returned home.

BE CAREFUL WITH COSTUMES

Pet costumes can impair movement, vision or breathing, so stick with something that is loose-fitting and simple. Stay away from metallic beads or other accessories that can be accidentally ingested. Avoid dyes or other haircoloring, even if labeled non-toxic for humans.

THROW AWAY GLOW STICKS AND JEWELRY

If punctured and ingested, glow sticks and jewelry can cause irritation, drooling and foaming at the mouth. Pets love to chew on these, so be sure to safely discard them after use.

FAST ACTION CAN SAVE A LIFE!

If there's a chance that a pet has consumed something toxic, don't delay. Contact a poison control hotline right away. Two good options, which do have a small cost associated with them, are the Pet Poison Helpline at 844.492.9842 or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control at 888.426.4435.

NEED HELP IN AN EMERGENCY?

The BluePearl emergency service can provide supportive care and advice for pets. Many of our hospitals are available 24-7. We're here for you and your pet.



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