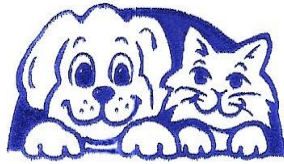


# PARKSIDE ANIMAL HOSPITAL e-NEWSLETTER

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WELCOME to the 30th edition of the PARKSIDE ANIMAL HOSPITAL monthly e-Newsletter

March 2011, Vol. 4, No. 3

Look forward to health care tips and information, services available for your pet; product rebates/promotions and much more, coordinating with the Parkside Animal Hospital website: [www.parksideanimalhospital.com](http://www.parksideanimalhospital.com)

Seen recently at Parkside Animal Hospital:



Sweetpea



Precious



Harry



Lucky



Lady Belle



Finn



Jasper



Scout



PJ



Tyson



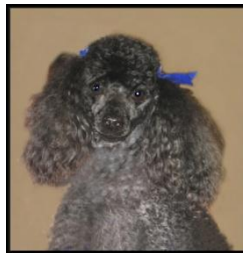
Murphy



Ted E. Bear



Muffin



Tasha



Buddy



Stanley



Allie



Harli



Dixie



Coda



Arabella



Coco



Speed Bump



Chicory

**FRONTLINE (Flea & tick preventative) SPECIAL OFFER! \$75.00 for 6 month supply + 1 free dose + a free Zanies toy. All weight classifications currently available, but supplies are limited.**

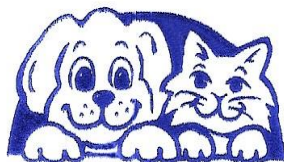
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## HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

### ...and is it SAFE for FLUFFY and FIDO??

Warm weather brings thoughts of spring, with thoughts of lawn and gardening for many. Your pets may be enjoying more time in the yard or basking on the patio. What IS or WILL BE growing in your yard and on your patio? Is it safe for your pet?

When pets eat grass or other plants, many assume they have an upset tummy and are seeking a way to make themselves vomit. While that may often be true, some pets are just natural grazers and like to nibble on or eat plants. Most pets at some time or another sample plants and other non-food objects just out of curiosity. Some pets quickly develop a reputation of chewing on or eating anything and everything as the spirit moves them.

While many plants may cause gastric upset or skin irritation; there are some plants that are quite toxic to dogs and/or cats, causing serious health consequences including death. There are also many plants considered non-toxic, safe to use in your landscape, even if your pet is a nibbler. Included in this article are non-comprehensive lists of plants common to this area that are considered either toxic or non-toxic. Plants were selected from a large list of plants found on the ASPCA website, link as follows:

<http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/poison-control/plants/>

Following each listing is D (dog) or C (cat), denoting either toxic or non-toxic to that species

#### HIGHLY TOXIC:

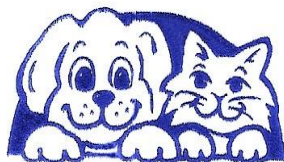
- **Apple, Crabapples, Apricots, Cherry:** (D & C) Stems, leaves and seeds contain cyanide, particularly toxic in process of wilting. Symptoms include brick red mucous membranes, dilated pupils, difficulty breathing, panting, shock.
- **Azalea:** (D & C) Vomiting, diarrhea, hyper-salivation, weakness, coma, cardiovascular collapse, death possible.
- **Castor bean plant:** (D & C) Beans very toxic. Symptoms include: oral irritation, burning of mouth & throat, increased thirst, vomiting, diarrhea, kidney failure, convulsions, coma, death.
- **Cyclamen:** (D & C) Salivation, vomiting, diarrhea. With large ingestion of tubers: heart rhythm abnormalities, seizures, death.
- **Daffodil, Tulips:** (D & C) Vomiting, salivation, diarrhea. Bulbs most toxic, large ingestions cause convulsions, low blood pressure, tremors and cardiac arrhythmias.
- **Daylilies, Easter lily, Asian lily** (C) many varieties of lilies are toxic with cats the only species known to be affected. Symptoms include: vomiting, in-appetence, kidney failure, death possible.
- **Foxglove:** (D & C) Cardiac arrhythmias, vomiting, diarrhea, weakness, cardiac failure, death.
- **Milkweed:** (D & C) Vomiting, profound depression, weakness, anorexia, diarrhea, possible seizures, difficulty breathing, rapid & weak pulse, kidney or liver failure, coma, death.
- **Nandina, Heavenly Bamboo:** (D & C) Weakness, in-coordination, seizures, coma, respiratory failure, death rare but possible.
- **Nicotiana:** (D & C) Hyper-excitability then depression, in-coordination, paralysis, death possible.
- **Oleander:** (D & C) All parts contain highly toxic cardiac glycoside. Symptoms include colic, diarrhea (possibly bloody), in-coordination, shallow or difficulty breathing, tremors, possibly death from cardiac failure.
- **Ornamental Pepper:** (D & C) Gastrointestinal upset, possible ulceration of GI tract, seizures, respiratory depression, shock.

(continued)

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## HIGHLY TOXIC (continued):

- **Periwinkle, Vinca:** (D & C) Vomiting, diarrhea, low blood pressure, depression, tremors, seizures, coma, death.
- **Sago Palm:** (D & C) Vomiting, dark blood in stool, yellow mucus membranes and whites of eyes, increased thirst, hemorrhagic gastroenteritis. liver damage, liver failure, death
- **Tomato plant:** (D & C) Hyper-salivation, in-appetence, severe gastrointestinal upset, diarrhea, central nervous system depression, confusion, weakness, slow heart rate.

## TOXIC, BUT LESS SO (primarily gastrointestinal distress or skin irritation):

- **Asparagus Fern:** (D & C) Allergic dermatitis with repeated dermal exposure, Berry ingestion can result in GI upset, vomiting & diarrhea.
- **Clematis:** (D & C) Salivation, vomiting, diarrhea.
- **Chrysanthemum, Mums:** (D & C) Vomiting, diarrhea, hyper-salivation, in-coordination, dermatitis.
- **Carnation, Dianthus, Pinks:** (D & C) Mild gastrointestinal symptoms or dermatitis.
- **Begonia:** (D & C) Tubers most toxic; oral irritation, intense burning of mouth, tongue and lips, drooling, vomiting, difficulty swallowing.
- **Flag, Iris:** (D & C) Highest toxicity in rhizomes; salivation, vomiting, diarrhea, drooling, lethargy.
- **Hyacinth:** (D & C) Highest toxicity in bulbs; vomiting, diarrhea, dermatitis/allergic reactions.
- **Geranium:** (D & C) Vomiting, anorexia, depression, dermatitis.
- **Hibiscus:** (D & C) Vomiting, diarrhea, nausea, anorexia.
- **Hosta:** (D & C) Vomiting, diarrhea, depression.
- **Hydrangea:** (D & C) Vomiting, diarrhea; depression, general gastrointestinal upset.
- **Kalanchoe:** (D & C) Vomiting, diarrhea, abnormal heart rhythm (rare).
- **Lantana:** (D & C) Vomiting, diarrhea, weakness, labored breathing. (liver failure more common in livestock)
- **Morning Glory:** (D & C) Gastrointestinal upset, agitation, disorientation, ataxia, anorexia. Seeds may cause hallucination and diarrhea.
- **Wisteria:** (D & C) Vomiting, sometimes with blood, diarrhea, depression.
- **Yucca:** (D & C) Vomiting and diarrhea.

If your pet has chewed on or ingested any of the above plants or any other substance of concern, please contact Parkside Animal Hospital immediately. **DO NOT WAIT FOR SYMPTOMS TO DEVELOP.** Should we be closed, contact the **Animal Emergency Hospital of North Texas, (817) 410-2273** or you may contact **ASPCA Poison Control** at **(888) 426-4435** 24 hours a day, 365 days a year if you think your pet may have ingested any potential poisonous substance including plants. A \$65 consultation fee can be applied to your credit card and they will work in concert with your veterinarian for best treatment.

If your pet has a currently active Home Again micro-chip, contact **Home Again** at **(888) 466-3242** and they will contact Poison Control for you at no charge, a wonderful additional benefit to having your pet micro-chipped! Have your pet's micro-chip number available when the call is made.

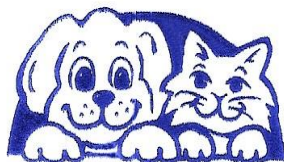
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**Traveling with your pet or boarding this spring? Are your pet's vaccinations current? Is your pet micro-chipped?  
Call for an appointment soon!**

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There are many readily available plants that are considered non-toxic to dogs and cats. While the following list is not comprehensive (as the toxic list was not comprehensive), the following plants are among those listed on the ASPCA website as non-toxic to dogs and cats.

## NON-TOXIC:

- Acorn squash
- African Daisy (Barberton & Gerber Daisy)
- African Violet
- Aluminum Plant (Watermelon plant)
- Alum Root (Coral Bells, Heuchera)
- Alyssum
- American Rubber plant (Pepper face, baby rubber plant)
- Anthericum comosum ( ribbon plant, spider plant, spider ivy)
- Areca palm
- Bachelors buttons (cornflower)
- Bamboo (golden or fishtail bamboo)
- Beets
- Begonia Rex
- Blue Daisy (Felicia, Blue Marguerite)
- Boston Fern
- Cast Iron Plant
- Celosia globosa (globe amaranth)
- Celosia plumose (cockscomb)
- Chenille plant
- Chicken gizzard (Joseph's Coat)
- Canna Lily
- Christmas Cactus
- Common Snapdragon
- Common Staghorn fern
- Confederate Jasmine (Star Jasmine)
- Coral Bells (Heuchera)
- Coreopsis (Tickseed)
- Crape Myrtle
- Creeping Charlie (Swedish Ivy)
- Cucumbers
- Easter Orchid (Cattleya)
- Garden Marigold
- Garden snapdragon
- Gloxina
- Grape Hyacinth
- Hens and Chicks
- Hollyhock
- Holly Fern (Japanese Holly fern)
- Impatiency (Bizzy Lizzie, Lady slipper)
- Japanese Pittosporum (Mock Orange)
- Jasmine
- Lipstick plant
- Magnolia bush (Star Magnolia)
- Moss phlox (phlox subulata)
- Nasturtium
- Pampas grass
- Petunia
- Piggy back plant
- Poison Ivy (allergic dermatitis in humans, not usually a problem with animals)
- Rose
- Scabiosa (pincushion flower)
- Star jasmine
- Strawberry
- Sunflower
- Texas Sage (Scarlet sage, salvia)
- Variegated Wandering Jew
- Venus Fly Trap
- Zinnia
- Zucchini squash

As you consider plants growing in your home or garden, also consider chemicals and soil amendments you may use that would be toxic to your pets. Cocoa mulch is fragrant and very attractive, but highly toxic to dogs, the same as dark chocolate.

All snail baits are highly toxic to dogs (even those advertised as pet-safe) and can result in the death of your pet. Mole or gopher bait with zinc phosphide is toxic and most forms of rat poisons are deadly. Take care with pesticides, pool chemicals and cleaning supplies and gardening implements as curious pets can be poisoned or injured in moments.

**NEVER WAIT FOR SYMPTOMS TO DEVELOP... SEEK VETERINARY CARE IMMEDIATELY!**

Please consult the ASPCA link found at the beginning of this article for hundreds of toxic and non-toxic plants commonly found in homes and gardens, including photos of plants and symptoms typically seen in dogs and cats.

**HAPPY (safe) GARDENING from your friends at Parkside Animal Hospital.**

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