

Halloween Hazards for Pets

Halloween may be the spookiest time of year, but it shouldn't be for your pets. To keep your pet happy and healthy, it is recommended to avoid the following:



Halloween Candy

Candy is for your human trick-or-treaters, not your four-legged friends. Many Halloween treats are toxic to pets. Chocolate (especially dark or baking chocolate) can be very dangerous for dogs and cats, and sugar-free candies/gum containing xylitol can cause a deadly blood sugar drop in dogs. Also remember that raisins are great for kids but poisonous to dogs. Never feed your pet candy and never leave your pet unsupervised with access to candy.



Decorations

It is always fun to put out the spooky decorations and lighted jack-o-lanterns, but these things can also put your animal at risk. Curious kittens and puppies may knock over a lit pumpkin and cause a fire. Chewed or ingested batteries from flashlights or light-up costumes can also result in serious chemical burns.

Glow Sticks and Jewelry

Jewelry that glows in the dark is popular to use during this holiday. This type of jewelry contains a chemical called dibutyl phthalate and if ingested may cause heavy salivation and agitation due to its bitter taste.



Alcohol

Alcohol leads to rapid sedation, shock and low blood sugar in pets. Never give your pet alcohol.



Pet Costumes

Although it can be fun dressing up your furry friends for the holiday, it may cause undue stress for some pets. Be sure your pet's costume fits properly, does not contain pieces that can be easily chewed and/or cause choking, and does not hinder sight, hearing, breathing, opening of the mouth or movement of your pet.



Current Identification

Halloween can bring many visitors to your home, and this may cause stress to your pets. All pets should be kept in a separate room away from the front door during trick-or-treating hours. If your pet is allowed access to the door, it is recommended to have the pet on a leash. This will prevent the pet from darting outside and potential bite cases. Also, always make sure your pet is wearing a collar with ID tags and/or a microchip.

