Elburn Animal Hospital Newsletter September 2021

Welcome

Hope everyone enjoyed their summer! Fall is almost here and unfortunately, Covid 19 is still here! This month's newsletter we will discuss "fall health tips for your pets". If you have any questions or have a topic you would like to hear about please contact our staff at 630-365-9599 or you can contact us via email at <u>3lburn@sbcglobal.net</u>

Autumn safety tips

This time of year means everything pumpkin and apple, crisp air, beautiful fall colors, football, bonfires, hot chocolate and hoodies!!It's a good time to be outside with your dog romping in the piles of leaves, while your cat looks for that midday sun to lounge in. The following are some tips to keep your pet happy and healthy throughout the autumn months.



Watch out for ticks!

Ticks are still very active in the fall. Many species of ticks are active into the winter and can survive the first frost. Some tips to keep your pet tick free this fall are:

Eliminate their favorite environment, such as leaf and garden litter.

Check for ticks frequently.

Continue using tick control and repellant

Products, especially if you spend a lot of time outdoors with your pet.

Have your vet do annual screening for tick borne illnesses.



Beware of rodenticides.

Fall is the time of year when rats and mice invade your home looking for warmth.

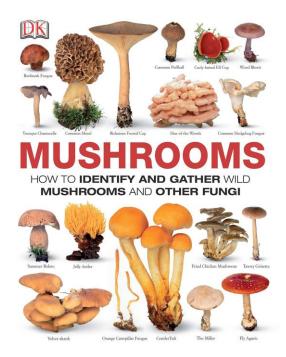
Be careful with rat and mouse poisons. Many poisons on the market are extremely harmful to your dogs and cats. Direct ingestion can be deadly. Do some research into pest control that is safe for your pets.



Elburn Animal Hospital Newsletter September 2021

Wild mushrooms

If we have a damp autumn, you will see more and more mushrooms growing in and around your yard. While most mushrooms are safe, there is a small percentage that is highly toxic. Familiarize vourself with which mushrooms are toxic, and if you think your pet has eaten a poison mushroom, contact poison control or a veterinarian immediately!



Feed your pet the correct diet

Cool temperatures mean more energy is needed to stay warm. You may need to feed your pet a bit more, especially if your pet is very active and outdoors frequently. However, before you do this, discuss it with your veterinarian.

Antifreeze toxicity

In preparing for winter, people usually start to winterize their cars in the fall. This often involves changing fluids such as antifreeze which can be deadly for pets. Just 1 – 2 teaspoons can kill a 10 pound dog; less can kill a 10 pound cat! One of the substances in antifreeze is ethylene alcohol; it has a sweet smell that entices pets to lick it up. It is extremely important to clean any spills up right away and make sure your pets are not in the garage while you are working on your vehicle. Cat litter works very well to absorb any spills.



Chocolate and other holiday foods

With Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year all coming up in the fall and winter, we increase our intake in sweet, hearty foods. It is important to make sure your pets don't get into any foods that can make them sick; for example, chocolate, grapes, raisins, onions, macadamia nuts are all toxic for your pets. Also, while not considered toxic, rich, and fatty foods can cause stomach problems such as diarrhea and gastroenteritis and more serious Also food conditions like pancreatitis. items that can cause choking hazards, like turkey bones around Thanksgiving. Also, many candies and gums, even some peanut butter, contain xylitol, an extremely toxic sugar substitute, so make sure and check ingredients.



Be careful with decorations

Holidays mean decorations! Be careful about leaving irregularly shaped objects around the house. Dogs and cats like to sample decorative gourds or other fall and winter decorations. Eating strange objects can lead to foreign body obstruction. Also, make sure to conceal or cover electric cords, you don't want your pet to get an electrical burn from chewing on a cord or even lights.



If you have any questions or comments, please email us at <u>3lburn@sbcglobal.net</u> or call 630-365-9599! If you have a subject you would like covered in our newsletter please let us know!

HAPPY FALL AND DON'T FORGET TO WEAR YOUR MASK!!!

(Halloween or otherwise!)