

## Welcome

Hope everyone is enjoying this nice fall so far! I'm sure many of you, especially those of you with children are looking forward to Halloween. This month's newsletter we will discuss how to keep your pet's safe this Halloween. 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 [3lburn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:3lburn@sbcglobal.net)



## Halloween tips for pet owners

**Do not leave your pets outside on Halloween.** Some pranksters have been known to tease, injure, steal and even kill pets on Halloween night. Keep your pets inside where they are safe.

**Keep your dog confined and away from the door.** People may be coming to your door often, dressed in unusual costumes and with masks, ringing the door bell and knocking, and this can upset your pet. It can be a very stressful and confusing thing for your pet. This could lead to an escape attempt by your pet, so it is best to keep them contained in a part of the house, as far from the front door as possible.

**Keep Halloween pumpkins and corn out of your dog's reach.** They are relatively nontoxic but can cause gastrointestinal upset if ingested in large quantities. Intestinal blockage can also occur from

corn cobs or large pieces of pumpkin.

**Lock candy safely away.** A dog's sense of smell will lead them to the most well-hidden places. Chocolate, especially dark chocolate, raisins, and macadamia nuts are toxic for your pets. Also many gums and candy can contain xylitol, an artificial sweetener which is extremely toxic for your pet.

**Don't leave glow sticks lying around.**

Most are labeled as non-toxic, but can cause your pet to drool extensively as they have an extremely bitter taste. Also, they can lead to an intestinal blockage if your pet swallows them.

**Be careful with pet costumes.** For some pets wearing a costume can lead to stress. Do not put your pet in a costume unless you already know they will be comfortable. The costume should not limit the pet's movement, sight, ability to breathe or bark. It should be checked over for small dangling pieces that can be easily chewed off to ensure there will be no choking hazards. Try it on them beforehand and let them get used to it. If they show any signs of stress, let them go without it, or get a festive collar!



**Don't leave lit pumpkins or electrical cords unattended around pets.** If your pet gets too close they can risk being burned or knocking a candle over and causing a fire. If they chew on a cord, they could possibly receive a life threatening shock. **Keep your pet identified and visible.** If you take your pet out after dark make sure they have on a reflective collar and are securely leashed. Make sure they have a ID tag on their collar with your contact information. It's also a very good idea to have your pets' microchipped in case they ever get away from you. And always make sure your information is kept up to date for your pets' microchip.



Make sure to continue to use tick and flea preventative. Ticks are very active this time of year!



If you have any questions or comments, please email us at [31burn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:31burn@sbcglobal.net) or call 630-365-9599! If you have a subject you would like covered in our newsletter please let us know!