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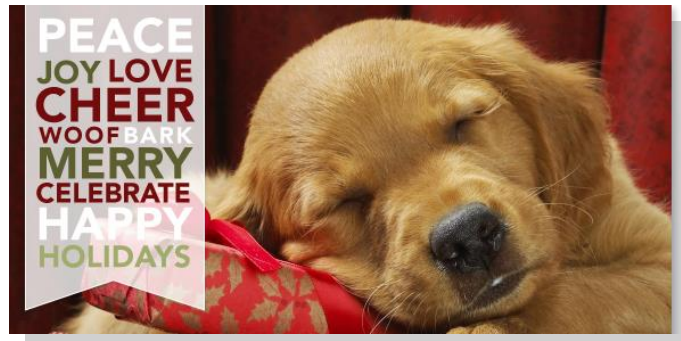
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Keeping Your Pets Safe this Holiday Season

San Diego Humane Society Offers the Following Tips to Ensure the Whole Family Has a Healthy and Happy Holiday Season

SAN DIEGO — With the bustling holiday season just around the corner, San Diego Humane Society reminds pet owners to consider their pets' safety when decking the halls. Holiday decorations, seasonal plants and festive treats can sometimes be harmful for pets. To keep your pets safe and healthy this holiday season, San Diego Humane Society recommends keeping the following tips in mind:



San Diego Humane Society's Tips for Keeping Pet Safe During the Holidays

1. Sharing all those holiday goodies with your favorite animal companion could be dangerous. Too much fatty or rich food can lead to digestive problems. Some foods, such as chocolate and onions, can be toxic.
2. Instead, indulge your pets with a special pet food or treat in an enrichment toy or game, which will provide hours of entertainment while you entertain your guests.
3. Dangling tree ornaments seem like great toys to cats and dogs. Be sure dangerous ornaments such as glass and tinsel (which can be a choking hazard) are hung on high branches, out of the reach of little paws, and very well secured. Make sure any chords from lights are taped down or otherwise secured to prevent pets from chewing on them.
4. Keep an eye on items under the tree, too! Ribbons and bows can be a choking hazard, and any packages filled with edible gifts are likely to be discovered.
5. A number of holiday season plants are toxic or can cause digestive upset to pets if nibbled or eaten, including ivy, holly mistletoe, poinsettias and lilies. Be sure all of the plants are kept out of reach of pets.
6. Our pets can get just as stressed with increased guests, noise and activity. Make sure your pet always has a quiet secure place to escape the commotion.



7. Pets thrive on routine and increased activity or visitors during the holiday season can upset that routine. Try to keep your pet on his regular schedule for feeding and exercise and be sure the pet gets plenty of love and attention from you!
8. Guests coming in and out of your home will be at a peak, and this increases the potential for pets escaping through open doors. Keep your pets safely indoors and always make sure they're wearing current ID tags and that their microchip information is up to date, just in case! If your pet is not currently microchipped, San Diego Humane Society offers \$15 microchips at its San Diego, Escondido and Oceanside Campus locations. No appointment necessary, hours and locations can be found [here](#).

Contact your local shelter immediately if your pet is missing. [This chart](#) can help determine which shelter covers your area.

For more information, or to schedule an interview please contact Kelli Schry at (619) 250-6801 or kschry@sdhumane.org.

About San Diego Humane Society

Serving San Diego County since 1880, San Diego Humane Society's scope of social responsibility goes beyond adopting animals. San Diego Humane Society offers San Diegans a wide range of programs and services to 'Inspire Compassion' in our community, prevent cruelty/neglect, provide medical care, educate the community on the humane treatment of animals and provide safety net services for all pet families needing assistance with keeping their pets.

As one of San Diego's oldest nonprofit organizations, San Diego Humane Society has campuses located in Escondido, Oceanside, and San Diego as well as adoption centers inside Petco stores throughout San Diego County. San Diego Humane Society is supported solely through contributions, grants, bequests, investments, proceeds from the Muttique retail store and small fees for services. For more information or to view our current animals available for adoption; please visit www.sdhumane.org.

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