



MARCH 2025

SITS & WIGGLES

The Newsletter of the Animal Clinic of Chardon



IT'S NATIONAL PET POISON PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

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TOP 10 PET POISONS OF 2024

Pets can encounter a multitude of potential toxins every day, but the toxicology experts at Pet Poison Helpline have released their annual list of the Top 10 Pet Poisons of 2024 based on actual caller data.

“Although there are thousands of potential toxins, some items rise to the top of the list every year,” said Dr. Renee Schmid, a senior veterinary toxicologist and director of Veterinary Medicine at Pet Poison Helpline. “Although this year’s lists for dogs and cats is very similar to 2023, the order has changed slightly and the differences between dogs and cats continues to be significant.

The Top 10 Pet Poisons of 2024 for dogs were:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. <u>Chocolate</u> | 6. <u>Marijuana</u> (THC) |
| 2. <u>Grapes/Raisins</u> | 7. <u>Anticoagulant Rodenticides</u> |
| 3. <u>Bromethalin</u> | 8. <u>Vitamin D3</u> (overdose) |
| 4. <u>Xylitol</u> | 9. <u>Carprofen</u> (overdose) |
| 5. <u>Ibuprofen</u> | 10. <u>Onions/Chives/Leeks/Shallots</u> (Allium species) |



“One shift we saw from 2023 to 2024 was bromethalin (rodenticide) moved up the list two places from fifth to third place,” Dr. Schmid explained. “Carprofen also moved up one place from tenth to ninth. Carprofen calls are predominantly due to the wrong pet ingesting the medication or an overdose occurring, not from normal therapeutic use.” (Continued on next page)

TOP 10 PET POISONS OF 2024 (CONTINUED)

The Top 10 Pet Poisons of 2024 for cats were:

1. Lilies (Lilium species)
2. Chocolate
3. Onions/Chives/Leeks/Shallots (Allium species)
4. Garlic
5. Ibuprofen
6. Alstroemeria, Peruvian Lily
7. Vitamin D3 (overdose)
8. Amphetamine Combos
9. Carprofen
10. Tulips

“As you can see, the list of Top 10 Pet Poisons for cats is significantly different than it is for dogs,” Dr. Schmid said. “The biggest difference is that specific lilies are extremely dangerous to cats, while chocolate is the biggest temptation for dogs, based on the calls received to our call center.”

Marijuana continues to be a major concern for dog owners. As more and more states legalized medical and recreational marijuana, Pet Poison Helpline saw a significant increase in THC-related exposures. In fact, from 2019 to 2023, there was a 430% increase in marijuana-related calls.

In 2024, there was a 24.7% decrease in the number of calls regarding marijuana compared to 2023, but it was not enough to knock it out of sixth place on the dog list. “We’ve done a significant amount of educational outreach around the dangers of THC exposure, so I’d like to think our efforts helped move the needle in the right direction,” Dr. Schmid explained.

“Even if you don’t use marijuana, your pet can still be exposed,” Dr. Schmid added. “We’ve seen cases where dogs have gotten into a neighbor’s pot brownies, or a visitor brings a THC-infused treat into a pet’s environment without the owner’s knowledge. Based on our call data, dogs are far more likely to be attracted to marijuana than cats.”



Online
Store
Promotions

End of winter sale
Use code: **LASTFROST** at checkout
to claim your savings
*** 20% off ***

Use code LASTFROST - valid for a one-time purchase through our online store. Compounded medications not included. Other restrictions apply. Valid 3/1/25 - 3/31/25

Spring savings are blooming
15% off
Use code: **15BLOOMING**

Use code 15BLOOMING - valid for a one-time purchase through our online store. Compounded medications not included. Other restrictions apply. Valid 5/25 - 4/25

TOP 11 POISONOUS PLANTS

Lilium species

Lilies in this genus are true lilies and can result in stomach upset and acute kidney failure if ingested by cats. A few examples of Lilium sp. are Stargazers, Oriental, Asiatic, Tiger, Roselily and Easter lilies. All parts of the plant, including the water in a fresh cut flower arrangement are considered toxic.

Hemerocallis species

Similar to Lilium sp., daylilies in the Hemerocallis sp. can also result in stomach upset and acute kidney failure if ingested by cats. All parts of the plant are considered toxic.

Sago/Cycad palm

Cycad / sago palm (*Cycas cirinalis*), Japanese cycad (*Cycad revoluta*), Coontie plant (*Zamia pumila*), and Cardbord palm (*Zamia furfuracea*) are highly poisonous to pets. While every part of the plant is toxic, the seeds are the most toxic part. These plants can cause severe stomach distress, fatal liver failure and potentially neurologic abnormalities.

Pothos/Devil's Ivy (*Epipremnum aureum*)

These plants contain insoluble calcium oxalate crystals that can be very irritating to the mouth and gastrointestinal tract. Fortunately, signs are limited to mouth pain and stomach upset. Exposure to the eyes may result in eye pain with tearing and squinting.

Peace Lily (*Spathiphyllum* species)

(These plants also contain insoluble calcium oxalate crystals and exposure results in similar signs as Pothos/Devil's Ivy and Philodendron.) These plants contain insoluble calcium oxalate crystals that can be very irritating to the mouth and gastrointestinal tract. Fortunately, signs are limited to mouth pain and stomach upset. Exposure to the eyes may result in eye pain with tearing and squinting.

Azaleas (*Rhododendron* species)

Azaleas contain toxins called grayanotoxins. Most ingestions by pets will only result in stomach upset, however, more severe signs including heart rate and rhythm abnormalities as well as neurologic changes can occur with large ingestions.

Aloe

The sap from aloe plants can result in intense diarrhea and vomiting. It is unlikely for more severe signs to occur.

Philodendron

(These plants also contain insoluble calcium oxalate crystals and exposure results in similar signs as Pothos/Devil's Ivy and Peace Lily.) These plants contain insoluble calcium oxalate crystals that can be very irritating to the mouth and gastrointestinal tract. Fortunately, signs are limited to mouth pain and stomach upset. Exposure to the eyes may result in eye pain with tearing and squinting.

Hosta

Stomach upset including vomiting, diarrhea and inappetence may develop after a pet ingests hosta plants. More significant signs are not expected.

Tulips and Daffodils

Tulip and Daffodil bulbs can cause heart rate, rhythm and blood pressure changes if ingested. When other parts of the plant are ingested, signs are generally limited to stomach upset.

“You can say any foolish thing to a dog, and the dog will give you a look that says, ‘Wow, you’re right! I never would’ve thought of that!’” — Dave Barry

ACOC Birthdays

Kim 3/6

Terri 3/15

Dr. Stephanie 3/24

