

CLIENT HANDOUT

Spring Garden Safety for Pets¹

Protect Pets From Budding Danger



BEAUTIFUL GARDENS ARE IN POPULAR DEMAND. BEFORE YOU PLANT ANY SEEDS, HOWEVER, IT'S IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT SOME OF THE PLANTS THAT MAKE OUR GARDENS AND YARDS BEAUTIFUL CAN POTENTIALLY MAKE OUR ANIMAL COMPANIONS SICK—OR WORSE.



Toxic Plants

Eating poisonous plants is one of the most common ways that many pets, especially dogs and cats, ingest toxic substances. And since there are few effective treatments for toxic plant ingestion, a small mistake in the garden may be catastrophic to your pet and your family.

PLANTS THAT ARE REPORTED TO BE TOXIC

Azalea	Hyacinth
Bittersweet	Iris
Caladium	Lily of the Valley
Clematis	Morning Glory
Crocus	Oleander
Day Lily	Rhododendron
Death Camas	Tiger Lily
Easter Lily	Tulip
Ferns	
Foxglove	

Fertilizers & Pesticides

Finally, no garden would be complete without fertilizers and weed killers. Though these products can make your plants healthier, they can injure or may even kill your pets.

Choose pet-safe options for substances like snail bait and weed and feed products, or go organic and try planting flowers like Mexican marigold, which naturally repel insects without harming animals.

When all else fails, check the label and ask a gardening professional. If there's a doubt about the product's safety for your pet, don't use it!

Artificial Plants

Before you decide to forego flowers and plants and instead use artificial flowers, consider that some pets might find silk flowers just as tasty. A curious puppy or kitten with a sweet tooth for silk flowers can lead to an intestinal blockage for your pet. Most will at least act as an emetic, which means your pet will vomit soon after eating.



In order to protect your pet from possible poisoning, it's important to make sure you keep known poisonous plants and toxic items out of reach, watch for plants and toxic items that have been chewed on, keep an eye on your pet for symptoms of poisoning, and take your pet—along with a sample of the plant/toxic item—with you to your veterinarian immediately if you suspect a poisonous item has been consumed. If you are concerned about your pet being poisoned, please contact a veterinarian right away. In the case of an after-hours emergency and you have no immediate access to a veterinarian, call the Pet Poison Helpline at 800-213-8860. A \$35 fee per call will apply. 🐾

