

# PET POURRI



DAMARISCOTTA VETERINARY CLINIC NEWSLETTER

Spring 2017

[www.damariscottavetclinic.com](http://www.damariscottavetclinic.com)

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## Top Poisons Affecting Trupanion Pets

You can find many items in your cupboards, garage, garden, even your purse or backpack that are be poisonous to your pet. This gives curious cats and dogs easy access to items that can cause serious harm. In fact, we searched our database and found thousands of cases of pets poisoned by common household items. Since 2013, we have paid \$2.9 million toward toxicity claims for cats and dogs. Below are some of the most common poisons we found and what you can do to protect your pet.

### In the Kitchen

Many foods commonly found in the kitchen are toxic for our pets.

Avoid giving your pets a taste of the following:

- Chocolate
- Xylitol  
(found in sugar-free gum & some peanut butter)
- Grapes
- Raisins
- Alcohol
- Yeast dough
- Caffeine
- Onions
- Macadamias
- Mushrooms

### In the Medicine Cabinet

Trupanion sees many poison claims involving human pain medication whether they were dropped on the floor or the pets got into a purse. Some of the most common are:

- Hand sanitizer
- Acetaminophens (Tylenol)
- Pseudoephedrine (Sudafed)
- Albuterol found in inhalers
- Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (Advil, ibuprofen, Aspirin)

THC in medicinal marijuana

### In the Garage

Your garage, shed, basement, or cabinets can house a number of substances that wouldn't seem appealing to a pet--but they'll get into it anyway. Be sure to keep the following out of reach:

- Dishwashing detergent
- Bleach
- Household cleaners
- Rodent poison or traps
- Slug bait
- Fertilizer Lawn or garden chemicals
- Antifreeze

### In the Yard (or House)

Plants are everywhere, and as a pet owner, you should know which plants to keep from your pets. Lilies are especially dangerous for cats, and sago palms for dogs. Know which plants are dangerous for your pet:

- Lily
- Tulip
- Azalea
- Daffodil
- Foxglove
- Sago palm
- Dumbcane
- Yew



**FOR DOGS**  
12 WEEK  
FLEA AND TICK PROTECTION  
in one tasty chew

**REBATES**  
available on  
Bravecto

**THANKS!** for  
buying local.

Fleas and ticks are here! Be sure to protect your pets by using veterinary recommended flea and tick preventatives.

**Bravecto for cats is now available  
In a spot on treatment once every 12 weeks**

**What is a health screen?**

More than 10 percent of pets brought to veterinary clinics for checkups have some type of underlying disease or abnormality, according to published research. Many of these pets appear normal upon physical examination, and their abnormalities would go undetected without a health screen -- a blood test designed to detect these silent problems.

The process of disease development in pets can be slow and insidious. When an organ system starts to fail, that organ will compensate to bring function back to normal. Over time, this compensating mechanism will fail as well and the pet will become ill.

For pets under 7 years of age, we can perform an in-house blood test that will check your pets':

*Blood count for infection / inflammation / anemia*

*Chemistries liver and kidney function / blood sugar / hydration*

Since the likelihood of disease increases as our pets' age, we recommend the *comprehensive health screen test* for pets 8 years or older. *This test is the same as above (sent to outside lab) but more in depth plus checks the thyroid and pancreas function and electrolytes.*



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AND  
HOUSE CALLS**




**We Love Referrals!**



Your referral of a friend or neighbor to our office is one of the finest compliments you can give us.  
We appreciate you taking the time to tell others about us.



**trupanion™**  
Protect your pet. And yourself.

**Medical Insurance For Your Pet**



## Did You Know....



...Porcupines do not throw their quills? They do, however, use their tails for defense. Beware as soon as temperatures start warming up for more than a few days in a row, porcupines and skunks will be out and about.

...A female cat can get pregnant while still nursing kittens? And more than one Tom cat can be responsible for a litter of kittens? Thus the many different color combinations in some litters. Please have your female cats spayed and male cats neutered by 6 month of age.

...Rabbits possess nearly 360-degree vision to spot predators. They can reach a top speed of 18mph as they zig zag away.

...Raccoons can carry both feline and canine distemper therefore threatening the health of both dogs and cats? Please have your pet vaccinated at least every 3 years.

...Each adult flea you see may represent as many as 2,000 developing fleas? Keep your pet on flea preventive products year round to avoid flea infestations.

...The gas emitted from over-heated Teflon pots and pans and burner drip pans can kill birds. If you have a pet bird in the house you should avoid using Teflon pans.

...Licensed veterinary technicians are similar to registered nurses? They perform technical duties such as vaccinations, injections, blood drawing, run laboratory tests, give physical exams, etc. They also assist the doctor in surgery and other medical procedures.

...Bad breath is one of the first signs of an oral health problem? Up to 80 percent of dogs and cats that do not receive proper dental care show signs of dental disease by 3 years of age.

...Fleas carry Tapeworm? If your cat or dog ingests an infected flea(s) they may get Tapeworm infection. Please use veterinarian approved flea and tick prevention products year round.

...A parked car, in the shade with the windows cracked on a 70 degree day can heat to over 150 degrees in minutes. Please leave your pets home in warm weather.

...A cat grooms for cleaning and cooling purposes? By causing hairs to lay in a certain direction, they can control the amount of air that reaches the skin.

**Please let us know if your address, phone number or email have changed.**



*Thanks for buying local !*

If we don't have it in stock, visit our website -  
[www.damariscottvetclinic.com](http://www.damariscottvetclinic.com)  
and click on the "shop on-line now" button

### Have We Seen Your Cat Lately?

Cats are masters at hiding illness. Because they are solitary hunters, and must protect themselves, they will not show outward signs of pain or illness. Subtle signs of a problem include: Any changes in activity, eating, drinking and sleeping habits, inappropriate elimination, weight loss or gain, changes in grooming, increase in vocalization and bad breath.

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# PET POURRI



## Skunk Smell Solution

If your pet should be sprayed by a skunk you can use the following solution to neutralize the odor and dissolve the oil from the spray:

- 1qt of 3% hydrogen peroxide
- 1/4 cup baking soda
- 1tsp Dawn dish detergent

Be careful not to get solution in the pet's eyes.



## OFFICE HOURS

by appointment

**Monday, Thursday and Friday**

8am to Noon & 1 to 5pm

**Tuesday** 8am to Noon & 2 to 6pm

**Wednesday** 8am to Noon

*(doctor is not in)*

**Saturday** 8am to Noon

*(Dr. not always on)*

House calls available.

Please call for an appointment

**563-3934**

**After hours emergency**

**273-1100**

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*Time to play!*

