



NORTH AVENUE ANIMAL HOSPITAL, P.C.

1901 W. North Ave.
Chicago, IL 60622
(773) 278-1330

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDS

Antifreeze or de-icers

Ethylene glycol is the active ingredient in antifreeze, pets like the taste and will drink it. Initial signs of poisoning include a lack of coordination and/or vomiting. Symptoms may be seen within an hour of ingestion. Poisoned animals may survive the initial signs only to develop kidney failure later. If you suspect your animal has ingested antifreeze, contact us **immediately**.

Rodenticides and Insecticides

The chemicals used to kill or repel pests can also be toxic to your pet (especially rat poison). If your pet is exposed to such poisons, call us **immediately** and take note of the active ingredient in the poison.

Aspirin and non-aspirin pain relievers

Never give your cat aspirin, ibuprofen, or acetaminophen; they are all potentially fatal. While aspirin may be given to dogs, always consult us first.

Chocolate

Chocolate is potentially harmful to our pets. Baker's unsweetened chocolate is the most toxic form. Large amounts of chocolate can lead to hyperactivity and even heart arrhythmias.

Grapes and Raisins

Although seemingly harmless, it has recently been discovered that too many grapes or raisins may actually be toxic and cause kidney failure.

Plants

The leaves of many tropical houseplants can be very irritating, including: caladium, philodendron, and dumbcane (dieffenbachia). Poinsettia leaves, mistletoe berries, and lilies are toxic, especially to cats. Garden flowers such as bleeding hearts (dicentra), lupine, foxglove (digitalis), larkspur (delphinium), and the leaves of these plants are a health risk. The roots of peony bushes and the bulbs of many **lilies** (amaryllis, daffodils, tulips, narcissus, and lily-of-the-valley) are toxic, as are the wisteria seeds.

Caustic Substances

Drugs, cosmetics or household cleaners should be inaccessible to your pet. Many cleaners are caustic and can burn your pet's mouth or esophagus.

Only induce vomiting after calling us. If you are advised to induce vomiting, you can start with a tablespoon of hydrogen peroxide or a teaspoon of syrup of ipecac.