



TAYLOR COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

DECEMBER 2011/JANUARY 2012

NEWSLETTER

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Dog Seller License #268226-DS

Holiday Safety Tips

Holly, Jolly and Oh-So-Safe! Of course you want to include your furry companions in the festivities, pet parents, but as you celebrate this holiday season, try to keep your pet's eating and exercise habits as close to their normal routine as possible. And be sure to steer them clear of the following unhealthy treats, toxic plants and dangerous decorations:

O Christmas Tree

Securely anchor your Christmas tree so it doesn't tip and fall, causing possible injury to your pet. This will also prevent the tree water—which may contain fertilizers that can cause stomach upset—from spilling. Stagnant tree water is a breeding ground for bacteria and your pet could end up with nausea or diarrhea should he imbibe.

Tinsel-less Town

Kitties love this sparkly, light-catching "toy" that's easy to bat around and carry in their mouths. But a nibble can lead to a swallow, which can lead to an obstructed digestive tract, severe vomiting, dehydration and possible surgery. It's best to brighten your boughs with something other than tinsel.

No Feasting for the Furrries

By now you know not to feed your pets chocolate and anything sweetened with xylitol, but do you know the lengths to which an enterprising fur kid will go to chomp on something yummy? Make sure to keep your pets away from the table and unattended plates of food, and be sure to secure the lids on garbage cans.

Toy Joy

Looking to stuff your pet's stockings? Choose gifts that are safe.

- Dogs have been known to tear their toys apart and swallowing the pieces, which can then become lodged in the esophagus, stomach or intestines. Stick with chew toys that are basically indestructible, Kongs that can be stuffed with healthy foods or chew treats that are designed to be safely digestible.
- Long, stringy things are a feline's dream, but the most risky toys for cats involve ribbon, yarn and loose little parts that can get stuck in the intestines, often necessitating surgery. Surprise kitty with a new ball that's too big to swallow, a stuffed catnip toy or the interactive cat dancer—and tons of play sessions together.

Forget the Mistletoe & Holly

Holly, when ingested, can cause pets to suffer nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Mistletoe can cause gastrointestinal upset and cardiovascular problems. And many varieties of lilies, can cause kidney failure in cats if ingested. Opt for just-as-jolly artificial plants made from silk or plastic, or choose a pet-safe bouquet.

Leave the Leftovers

Fatty, spicy and no-no human foods, as well as bones, should not be fed to your furry friends. Pets can join the festivities in other fun ways that won't lead to costly medical bills.

That Holiday Glow

Don't leave lighted candles unattended. Pets may burn themselves or cause a fire if they knock candles over. Be sure to use appropriate candle holders, placed on a stable surface. And if you leave the room, put the candle out!

Wired Up

Keep wires, batteries and glass or plastic ornaments out of paws' reach. A wire can deliver a potentially lethal electrical shock and a punctured battery can cause burns to the mouth and esophagus, while shards of breakable ornaments can damage your pet's mouth.

House Rules

If your animal-loving guests would like to give your pets a little extra attention and exercise while you're busy tending to the party, ask them to feel free to start a nice play or petting session.

Put the Meds Away

Make sure all of your medications are locked behind secure doors, and be sure to tell your guests to keep their meds zipped up and packed away, too.

Careful with Cocktails

If your celebration includes adult holiday beverages, be sure to place your unattended alcoholic drinks where pets cannot get to them. If ingested, your pet could become weak, ill and may even go into a coma, possibly resulting in death from respiratory failure.

A Room of Their Own

Give your pet his own quiet space to retreat to—complete with fresh water and a place to snuggle. Shy pups and cats might want to hide out under a piece of furniture, in their carrying case or in a separate room away from the hubbub.

New Year's Noise

As you count down to the new year, please keep in mind that strings of thrown confetti can get lodged in a cat's intestines, if ingested, perhaps necessitating surgery. Noisy poppers can terrify pets and cause possible damage to sensitive ears.

-- Originally published by the ASPCA

TCHS on the Web

Looking for a pet or know someone who is? Pictures and descriptions for all cats and dogs at our shelter are posted on petfinder.com, animalshelter.org, adoptapet.com and Facebook. In addition, information about TCHS can be found on co.tylor.wi.us.

Meet our Shelter Manager



Deb Kennedy has been the TCHS shelter manager since August 30, 2009. Deb is a very caring person who takes excellent care of all the animals during their stay at the shelter. Deb enjoys many parts of her job, but says the most satisfying is when an animal comes to the shelter scared and untrusting, and after she and the staff work with the animal, they begin to trust again and she's able to place them in a permanent home. If you have a few moments to spare, stop and meet Deb.

Shelter Hours

Monday - Noon until 5 p.m.
Tuesday - Noon until 5 p.m.
Wednesday - CLOSED
Thursday - 1 p.m. until 7 p.m.
Friday - Noon until 5 p.m.
Saturday - 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.
Sunday - CLOSED

TCHS Wish List

Here are some of the items the Humane Society is always in need of:

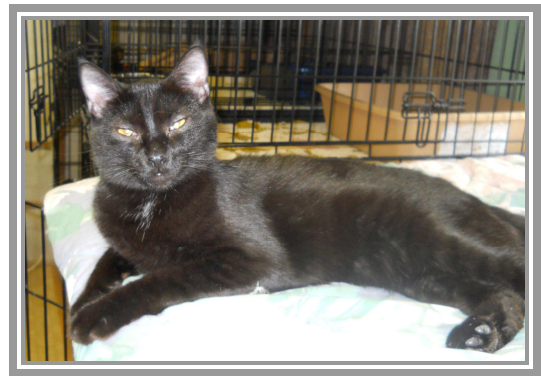
- ❖ Baking Soda (to deodorize litter boxes)
- ❖ Scoopable Cat Litter (any brand)
- ❖ Paper Towels
- ❖ Laundry Soap (any brand)
- ❖ Fabric Softener (any brand)
- ❖ Bleach
- ❖ Kitten Food
- ❖ Exclusive brand Cat Food (available at Medford Co-op)
- ❖ Friskies Paté soft cat food (prefer non-seafood varieties)
- ❖ Diamond brand Dog Food (available at Medford Co-op)
- ❖ Purina Dog Food

Donations of money are always welcome and may be sent to: PO Box 1, Medford, WI 54451

The residents and staff at Taylor County Humane Society thank you for your generosity.

Happy Holidays!

FEATURED PET



Miles has been at our shelter since July 24, 2010. Even though he loves Deb and all her helpers, he's hoping this will be his last Christmas at the shelter and can find his fur-ever home soon. He's a slick boy with a soft, smooth coat. He's brimming with character and has a certain flair about him. Miles is clean, healthy and would love to be pampered in your cozy home!! He gets along well with children, dogs and other cats.

TCHS Harvest Days Parade Float



Updates

Proceeds from the November 18th Brat Fry were \$576.84. Thank you to MeLinda & Hutch Brahmer, Herman Pernsteiner, Jane Darnell, Gail Gruneberg & Arlen Albrecht for all their hard work.

Broadway Theater donated the proceeds, totaling \$80.00, from all popcorn sales during the Nov. 19th showing of Happy Feet 2. Thank you to the Animal Advocate students who made posters to advertise this movie and the brat fry. These four lucky students won free tickets to this movie: Devin Balciar, Ryan Hart, Kaley Hart & Abby Schultz.

Materials and installation for a wheelchair ramp have been donated to the shelter. It will be installed when the weather cooperates.

We are putting together items for a raffle. At this time, we have an Amish quilt.

Please contact MeLinda Brahmer at audiology@tds.net or Brenda Smola at smobro@tds.net with ideas for additional items.

