



Cardinal Animal Hospital

www.cardinalanimalhosp.com

2301 Fleming Road

Greensboro, NC 27410

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FOODS THAT ARE TOXIC TO YOUR PET

*This list does not include ALL toxic foods. However, it does contain some of the most common. If your pet ingests any of these foods or any food you are concerned about, please contact us immediately!

CHOCOLATE, COFFEE, TEA, AND COLAS

All of these foods contain two kinds of toxins, caffeine and theobromine. These toxins have the same effect on animals and humans. However, in animals these effects can be life threatening. They increase heart rates and breathing and can also stimulate the central nervous system.

Symptoms: Vomiting, diarrhea, panting, hyperactivity, restlessness, ataxia (lack of coordination in the limbs, inability to walk and/or stand), muscle tremors, increased or decreased heart rate, irregular heart rhythm, increased body temperature, seizures, coma, abdominal pain, bloody urine, and/or possible death.

GRAPES AND RAISINS

These seemingly healthy treats contain a toxin that can cause kidney failure.

Symptoms: Vomiting, diarrhea, lack of appetite, lethargy and/or abdominal pain.

MACADAMIA NUTS

These contain a toxin that affects the muscles, digestive system, and nervous system. If the nuts are covered in chocolate there is the risk of the toxins in chocolate.

Symptoms: Lethargy, vomiting, hypothermia (decreased body temperature), ataxia (lack of coordination in the limbs), and/or hind leg paralysis.

BONES

All dogs love to chew on bones, however, bones are not good chew toys for your pet. Fish and poultry bones splinter easily when they are chewed. If your pet swallows the bone fragments, they can perforate the intestines.

ONIONS AND GARLIC

These foods (fresh or dried) contain a chemical that damages red blood cells in the body. This leads to anemia. Cats seem to be more sensitive than dogs, but these foods are toxic to both species.

Symptoms: Vomiting, diarrhea, anemia, discolored urine, weakness, liver damage, and allergic reaction.

BABY FOOD

Many baby foods are toxic because they contain onion powder.

SALTY AND SUGARY FOODS, AND TABLE SCRAPS

All of these foods can cause diarrhea and stomach upset. They can also lead to obesity in your pet as well. Veterinarians recommend avoiding giving any human food to your pet. A well-balanced dog food provides all of the calories, vitamins, minerals, and nutrients that your pet will need. Check with your veterinarian to find out about healthy treats for your pet.

A well-balanced diet, regular check ups with our veterinarian, and annual health screenings will all help to keep your pet in the best health possible.

We hope this information will be helpful. Our professionals here will continue striving to provide outstanding care for you and your pet. Thank you for your business and please contact us if you have any further questions or concerns. Cardinal Animal Hospital