

Pet First Aid & Poisonous Plants

By Harts Run Veterinary Hospital

Pet First Aid

- **Abscess, Bite Wound** – Keep clean with hydrogen peroxide. Apply warm compresses. If pus-like discharge persists or if the wound is large, have pet checked by a veterinarian.
- **Allergic Reactions** – Swollen muzzle and eyes – Watch for respiratory problems, vomiting, or collapse – These indicate a severe reaction and pet should be seen by a veterinarian as soon as possible, otherwise call for advice *See “Itch”
- **Back Injuries** – Arched back, tense abdomen, reluctance to jump or climb steps – Strict cage rest – If persists, or walks with wobbly gait, have checked by a veterinarian.
- **Bloat** – Enlarged abdomen behind rib cage, may be associated with non-productive vomiting or retching – EMERGENCY!!! Call a veterinarian immediately.
- **Constipation** – Make sure anal area is not covered by matted hair or feces. Use a suppository, non-prescription stool softener, Metamucil. Bran or oral Vaseline (1-3 tbsp) – Call veterinarian for advice.
- **Cough** – Over the counter cough medication, i.e. VICKS Formula 44 Plain – 1 teaspoon per 25# dog. If cough persists, see a veterinarian.
- **Diarrhea** – No food, water only for 12 hours, then small amounts of bland diet for 2-3 days with gradual return to normal diet.
- **Dry Skin** – Put corn oil or safflower oil on food 1 to 2 times per week dosage: 1 TBS per 30 lbs.
- **Ears** – Never use Q-tips down in the ears, only on the outer portion of ear! If waxy discharge – clean with baby oil – If puslike discharge use hydrogen peroxide and have checked by a veterinarian – Can also use vinegar and water 50/50, few drops.
- **Eyes** – Call a veterinarian for advice! You can use warm compresses to remove discharge around eyes.
- **Fever** – Not always bad – Normal temperature 101 to 102 – If over 103 see a veterinarian.
- **Foreign Body (Swallowed)** – Call a veterinarian for advice – will often pass through system on its own – if sharp object, toxic object, or if pet is vomiting or in distress – see your veterinarian.
- **Fractures** – Immobilize limb, temporary splint or just keep animal quiet. If bone exposed cover wound with a clean dressing – then see a veterinarian.

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Pet First Aid – cont.

- **Frostbite** – Grey skin – rapid warning at 85 degrees – bath or warm compresses.
- **Heat Stroke** – Temperature 104, panting, prostrate – Cold bath – ice on head – Alcohol on body – Then see a veterinarian.
- **Itch** – Check for fleas first – Antihistamine may have a tranquilizing effect – i.e. Allerest or Dristan – Cold water baths with 1 cup cornstarch/1 cup baking soda, or Avon Skin So Soft – 1 ½ oz/gal of water.
- **Lacerations** – Call a veterinarian for advice – Use a pressure bandage – May need a tourniquet if artery is involved.
- **Nails** – If bleeding, pack with corn starch, flour, or use a styptic pencil.
- **Nose Bleed** – Get animal to a place where blood will not stain carpet, furniture, etc. – Use ice packs, sedation (Whiskey and sugar water)
- **Pain** – Rest and aspirin if prescribed.
- **Poison** – Call Animal Poison Control Center 888/426-4435. If caustic – NO vomiting, i.e. lye, acid, alkali, kerosene – Feed bulky meal. If directed to induce vomiting – Hydrogen peroxide – 1 Tsp every 15 minutes or syrup of Ipecac – or moist salt.
- **Pyometra** – (Infected uterus) – 4 to 6 weeks after heat – drinks excessively – urinates excessively, listless, usually pus like vaginal discharge – See your veterinarian **ASAP**.
- **Seizures** – Try to calm pet afterwards; NOT during seizure. (Be careful not to get bit! Pet is unaware of what it is doing!) Use whiskey and sugar water – Make sure animal doesn't injure itself or you – Time the durations and record events before, during and after episode – If one after another after another, or if actual seizure lasts longer than 5 minutes, CALL your veterinarian.
- **Sprains/Strains** – Cold compresses for 24 hours – then warm soaks for 3 to 4 days – For dogs you can use Ascriptin – If lameness persists, SEE your veterinarian.
- **Trauma** – Call veterinarian **ASAP!** – Check for shock – pale gums or conjunctiva – rapid shallow breathing – EMERGENCY!!!
- **Vomiting** – Remove food and water for 12 hours – Then clear liquids for 24 hours such as water, Gatorade, chicken broth, etc. in small amounts at a time only! Pepto Bismol or Kaopectate – May give ice cubes or popsicles.

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Dosages and Special Diets

Antihistamine

Small dog	children's dose
Medium dog	½ adult dose
Large dog	adult dose

Ascriptin (Aspirin coated with Maalox)

Large dog	2 tabs
Medium dog	1 tab - Up to 3 times per day
Small dog	½ tab

Dogs only – **Do NOT give to CATS!!!**

Bland Diet

Cooked Rice (1part meat to 3 parts rice)
Boiled chicken or lean ground beef
Cottage cheese or plain live cultured yogurt mixed in.

Ipecac (To induce vomiting)

Dog less than 15 lbs	½ to 1 ml per pound
Dog more than 15 lbs	1 TBS

Give every 20 minutes and follow up with water until dog vomits

Kaopoectate – for cats and dogs

 Every 3 to 4 hours

Large pet	3 TBS
Medium pet	2 TBS
Small pet	1 TBS

Pepto Bismol – not for cats!

 Every 3 to 4 hours

Large pet	3 Tsp (1 TBS)
Medium pet	2 Tsp -
Small pet	1 TBS

Whiskey and Sugar Water – large pet (Sedative)

Whiskey	1 oz. (2 TBS)
Water	1 cup
Sugar	2 to 4 TBS

Cut in half for smaller pet

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Poisonous Plants

- I Mild Reaction
- II Moderate to Severe Reaction (not likely to be life threatening)
- III Severe Reaction (possibly life threatening)
- IV Contact Animal Poison Control Center 1-888-426-4435

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------|----|----------------------------|
| 1 | Oral Irritant | 6 | RBC Toxic (Red Blood Cell) |
| 2 | Cardiac (Heart) | 7 | Neurologic |
| 3 | Gastrointestinal | 8 | Contact Irritant |
| 4 | Renal (Kidney) | 9 | Cardiac Glycosides |
| 5 | Decreased calcium | 10 | Liver |
| | | 11 | Miscellaneous |

(The following lists are not exhaustive, but most plants found in the Midwest are included.)

I Mild Reaction

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| Acacia | Hyacinth, 8 |
| Arrowgrass, 3 | Indian Laurel, 8 |
| Asparagus Fern, 8 | Indian Rubber Plant, 8 |
| Birds Eye Primrose, 1, 3, 8 | Kidney Bean Tree, 3 |
| Bleeding Heart, 8 | Lords & Ladies, 1, 8 |
| Bullnettle, 1, 8 | Lovage, 3 |
| Calla Lilly, 1 | Love Apple, 3 |
| Century Plant, 1, 8 | Marigold, 8 |
| Chrysanthemum, 8 | Marguerite, 8 |
| Cocklebur, 8 | Miniature Croton, 3 |
| Croton, 3 | Mock Orange, 3 |
| Crown of Thorns, 3, 8 (mild to moderate) | Naked Lady, 3 |
| Cuban Laurel, 8 | Nettles, 8 |
| Dicentra, 8 | Nettle Spurge, 1, 3 |
| Emerald Feather, 8 | Pencil Cactus, 8 |
| Emerald Fern, 8 | Plumosa Fern, 8 |
| Eucalyptus, 8 | Poison Ivy, 8 |
| Evergreen, 3 | Poison Oak, 8 |
| Fiddle Leaf Fig, 3, 8 | Poison Sumac, 8 |
| German Primrose, 1, 8 | Pothos, 8 |
| Giant Hogweed, 8 | Primrose, 3, 8 |
| Greasewood, 8 | Tansy Mustard, 8 |
| Hedge Plant, 3 | Trumpet Creeper, 8 |
| Hops, 8 | Weeping Fig, 3, 8 |

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II Moderate to Severe Reaction (Not likely to be life threatening)

Alocasia, 1
Aloe, 3
Amaryllis, 3
American Bittersweet, 3, 7
Apple Leaf Croton, 3
Baneberry, 1, 3, 4
Belladonna
Bird of Paradise, 3
Branching Ivy, 3
Buddist Pine, 3
Burning Bush, 3, 7
Caladium
Charming Dieffenbachia, 1
Christmas Rose, 3
Cordatum, 1
Corn Plant (aka cornstalk plant), 2, 3
Crocus Autumn, 3, 4
Cutleaf Philadendron (ceriman), 1
DatfodU (bulb), 3
Daphne, 3
Datura, 2, 7
Deadly Nightshade, 3, 7
Death Camas, 1, 3, 7
Devil's Ivy, 1, 3
Dieffenbachia, 1
Dracaena Palm, 2, 3
Dragon Tree, 2, 3
Dumb Cane, 1
Elaine, 3
Elderberry, 3
Elephant Ears, 1
English Ivy, 1, 3
Euonymus, 3
European Bittersweet, 3, 7
European Spindle Tree, 3, 7
Fiddle Leaf Philodendron, 1
Florida Beauty, 2, 3
Fruit Salad Plant, 1
Giant Dumb Cane, 1
Glacier Ivy, 3
Gold Chain, 3
Gold Dieffenbachia, 1
Gold Dust Dracaena, 2, 3
Golden Pothos, 1
Green Gold Nephthysis, 1
Hahn's Self Branching Ivy, 3
Heartleaf Philodendron, 1
Hemlock, Poison, 1, 3
Henbane, 7
Holly, 3
Horse Chestnut, 3
Horsehead Philodendron, 1
Hurricane Plant, 1
Iris (bulb), 3
Ivy, 1, 3
Jack in the Pulpit, 1
Janet Craig Dracaena, 2, 3
Jerusalem Cherry, 3, 7
Jimson Weed, 2, 7
Jonquil, 3
Kalanchoe, 3
Lacy Tree Philodendron, 1
Lantan, 2, 3
Madagascar Dragon Tree, 3
Monchineel, 1, 3, 8
Mexican Breadfruit, 1
Monkshood, 2, 3
Morning Glory, 3, 7
Mother-In-Law Tongue, 1
Narcissus, 3
Needlepoint Ivy, 1, 3
Nephthytis, 1
Nightshade, 3, 7
Nipple Fruit, 2, 3, 7
Peyote, 2, 3
Philodendron, 1
Philodendron Pertusum, 1
Poinciana, 3
Pokeweed, 3
Poinsettia, 3
Poison Hemlock, 1, 3
Potato, 3
Prinet, 3
Privel, common, 3
Psilcybin Mushrooms, 7
Red Emerald, 1
Red-Margined Dracaena, 1
Red Princess, 1
Rhododendron, 3
Ribbon Plant, 2, 3
Saddle Leaf Philodendron, 1
Satin Pothos, 1
Schefflera, 1
Silver Pothos, 1
Skunk Cabbage, 1
Snow of the Mountains, 3
Snowdrops, 3
Spotted Dumb Cane, 1
Star Potato Vine, 3
Striped Dracaena, 2, 3
Sweetheart Ivy, 3
Swiss Cheese Plant, 1
Taro Vine, 1, 8
Tomato Plant, 3, 7
Tree Philodendron, 1
Tropic Snow Dieffenbachia, 1
Trumpet Vine, 2, 7
Tulip (bulb), 3
Variable Dieffenbachia, 1
Variegated Philodendron, 1
Virginia Creeper, 1
Walnut, 3
Wameckel Dracaena, 1
Wild Call Wisteria, 3
Wisteria, 3
Wolfsbane, 2, 3, 7

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III Severe Reaction (Possibly life threatening)

Almond, (kernel in the pit), 2, 3, 7
Angel's Trumpet, 2, 7
Apple Leaf Croton, 3
Apple Seeds, 2, 3, 7, 9
Apricot (pits), 2, 3, 7, 9
Autumn Crocus, 1, 3, 4
Avocado (fruit pit), 3
Azalea, 2, 3, 7
Beet Tops, 4, 5
Black Locust, 3, 4, 6
Blue-Green Algae, 2, 3, 7, 9
Buckeye, 3
Buckthorn, 7
Buttercup, 1, 3, 4
Castor Bean, 2, 3, 4, 6
Cherry (Ground), 3, 7, 9
Cherry (Laurel) 3, 7, 9
Cheny (Wild) 3, 7, 9
Chinaberry Tree 2, 3, 7
Chlorophytom
Cineraria, 10
Clematis, 1, 4
Coriaria, 7
Cycads, 2, 3, 6
Cyclamen, 3
Day Lily, 4
Dock, 4, 5
Easter Lily (in cats), 4
Foxglove, 2
Garlic, 6
German Ivy, 10
Glory Lily, 4
Heliotrope
Hellebore, 2, 3
Hemlock (water), 7
Hydrangea, 3, 7, 9
Indian Tobacco, 3, 7
Japanese Show Lily (in cats), 4
Japanese Yew, 2
Jequirity Bean, 3
Jessamine, 7
Laurel, 1, 2, 3, 7
Lily, 4
Lily of the Valley, 2
Lobelia, 3, 7
Lupine, 7
Macadamia Nut,
Marble Queen, 3, 7
Marijuana, 3, 7
Mauna Loa Peace Lily (aka Peace Lily), 4
Mescal, 2, 3, 7
Mistletoe, 2, 7
Moonseed, 7
Mushrooms:
 Amanita Phalloides, 3, 7
 Gyromitra, 4, 6, 7, 10
 Coprinus, 2
 Inocybe, 2, 3
 Clitocybe, 2, 3
Oleander, 2
Onion, 3, 6
Oriental Lily (in cats), 4
Palma Christi, 2, 3, 7
Peace Lily, 4
Peach (pits), 3, 9
Precatory Bean, 3
Rhubarb, 4, 5
Rosary Pea, 3, 4, 6
Sago Palm, 3, 7
Sloe, 3, 9
Sorel, 4, 5
Star of Bethlehem, 2, 3
Stargazer Lily (in cats), 4
Tiger Lily (in cats), 4
Tobacco, 2, 3, 7
Water Hemlock, 3, 7
Yews, 2
Yucca, 9

**IV Contact Animal Poison Control
1-888-426-4435**

Asian Lily
Australian Nut
Baby's Breath
Chinese Evergreens
Dianthus
Flamingo Plant
Geranium
Gladiolas
Heavenly Bamboo
Lace Fern
Orange Day Lily
Queensland Nut
Red Lily
Rubber Plant
Rubram Lily
String of Pearls
Wood Lily
Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow

**Please contact Animal Poison Control Center at
1-888-426-4435 with any questions.**