



Angelique Fuller, DVM

Dr. Angelique Fuller received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Design and Production for Theater from The North Carolina School of the Arts in 1997, a Master of Science in Animal Health Science from The North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University in 2003 and a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from North Carolina State University in 2007. She is a member

of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association, the American Veterinary Medical Association, The International Veterinary Academy of Pain Management and the American Academy of Veterinary Acupuncture. Dr. Fuller has had a wide variety of life experiences and finds that her art and medicine backgrounds blend together seamlessly. Growing up, she has always had a love for animals and realized early that a pet's health and well-being played an important role in the human-animal bond. Dr. Fuller's professional interests include all aspects of family pet practice with a focus on internal medicine, acupuncture and chronic pain management.

Holiday Hazards and Travel Tips

Guilford-Jamestown Veterinary Hospital Offers Some Tips to Keep Your Pet Safe During the Holidays

The holidays can be a stressful time for us, but let's not forget that our furry companions may be stressed out too! Think about it, we are decorating, entertaining, packing, wrapping, cooking, cleaning, traveling and so on while our pets sit and watch in dismay. They have no idea what's going on, but they do know they like the way that turkey and ham smells. They also think all those shiny, sparkling things you've hung up everywhere look like great fun to play with... and maybe eat... just a little. So, 5 tips to get you and your pets, through this most joyful, but stressful time of the year.

1. Car travel – if you plan on taking your furry friend with you be sure to have the following: Vaccination history, secure / safe crate, extra food and bottled water. What you may also need from your veterinarian: anti nausea medication, sedative, health certificate.
2. Air travel –check with the airline to see what are their requirements for companion animals. Usually a health certificate is required and if you are traveling outside of the US you must meet the requirements of the country you plan to enter. Some countries require testing that must be planned months in advance. Check to make sure that your pet's crate is secure and the proper size. Some smaller pets may be allowed to ride in the cabin with you, so make sure their carrier can fit. Your veterinarian may also recommend a sedative to help your pet relax during the plane ride.
3. You're traveling / your pet is boarding – always find out what are the vaccination requirements at the boarding facility. If the facility has no vaccination requirement, this should be a red flag, do not go there! Ask what they feed the pets during their stay. If your pet has a sensitive stomach or special dietary requirements, make sure they can accommodate those requirements. Consider taking time to visit the facility prior to your trip. The staff should be friendly and the facility should be clean. Most importantly, if your pet has health issues that require special attention and / or medication talk to your veterinarian prior to boarding and ask if boarding them at the animal hospital is possible. Many animal hospitals offer boarding for their clients. This offers a safe place for your pets, staff members familiar with their health problems and the equipment to handle medical emergencies.
4. Avoid holiday toxin exposure - chocolate, poinsettias, mistletoe,

to name a few. Every year there is a poor little dog at the hospital because they ate chocolate. Unsweetened baking chocolate carries a much higher dose of the toxin theobromine than does milk chocolate. Regardless of the type of chocolate, always contact your veterinarian immediately. Chocolate toxicity can be very serious and can result in death. Poinsettias, although very pretty, are also very irritating to the mouth and GI system of animals that eat them. The good news is that they actually are not as toxic as once thought and rarely cause serious illness in an otherwise healthy animal. Mistletoe should be kept away from pets. There are several different types of Mistletoe, some cause mild GI upset, while others can cause severe liver, heart and / or neurological problems. If your pet consumes any type of plant and you are not sure if it is toxic, contact your veterinarian immediately for advice.

5. Dietary Indiscretion – turkey, ham, steak, pies, cakes and cookies. Most pets will gladly eat our holiday meal with us, if we let them and sometimes even if we didn't mean to let them! Dietary indiscretion is the most common cause of diarrhea in dogs and if left untreated can lead to life threatening conditions such as pancreatitis. Early treatment is very important. Don't wait until your poor pup is vomiting and not eating before you call your veterinarian. Most importantly, though this is a time of sharing, don't share your food with your pet... they will still love you!


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