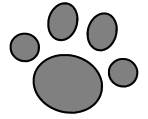


# LIBERTY VETERINARY HOSPITAL Paw Prints Monthly



December 2011

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Liberty Veterinary Hospital strives to create a state-of-the-art pet care facility that meets all of our clients' & pets' needs from nutritional supplies, boarding and grooming to the highest level of medical and surgical care. Because our team can only be as good as the sum of its parts, we nurture and educate our staff so that we may all provide uncompromising service, compassion, kindness and caring for each patient as a member

## DECEMBER IS HOLIDAY SAFETY AND COLD WEATHER MONTH



The holidays are a very hectic time for all of us. We are busy with decorating, buying and wrapping presents, baking and much more during the holiday season. Taking a few precautions may help this winter and holiday season run a bit smoother and keep your pet healthy and happy. Please take a few minutes to read over the following tips we have prepared for you and your pet.

Amy L Johnstone, DVM  
Robyn T Collins, DVM

Visit Our Website  
[www.libvethosp.com](http://www.libvethosp.com)

### OUR HOURS:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. 7:30am - 7pm  
Wed 7:30am - 6pm  
Sat 8:00am - 2pm  
Sun Closed

### Did You Know ...

We offer dog obedience class referrals  
We offer full grooming, boarding and surgical services  
We offer massage and rehabilitation therapy  
We offer *free* educational seminars  
We really look forward to visiting with you and your pet!

6823 YANKEE ROAD \* LIBERTY TWP.,  
OH 45044 \* PH.(513)755-9700 \*



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Adapted from: Healthypets.com

**Bones/Food**—bones or bone chips can lodge in the throat, stomach, and intestinal tract. Rich foods can cause severe gastrointestinal upset, chocolate and xylitol (in chewing gum!) can be deadly

**Plants**—With so many hybrid varieties available each year, some very toxic, the best approach is to keep all plants out of your pet's reach.

**Cords**—Enticing to chew—Be sure you have cords secured and out of the way.

**Candles**—An exuberant tail or a swat of a paw and candles and hot wax can quickly become disastrous.

**Pine needles**—Ingested pine needles can puncture your pet's intestines.

**Tree**—If you have a tree-climbing cat or large dog with a happy tail, anchor the top of the tree to the wall, using strong cord or rope. Avoid preservatives, sugar and aspirin in the water in a tree stand, they can cause gastric upset.

**Ornaments**—Sharp or breakable, should be kept out of reach. String objects are to be safeguarded at all costs. They can wrap around intestines or ball up in the stomach.

**Stress and company**—watch out for open doors and sneaky pets. Make sure your pets wear collars and tags and have been microchipped in case of escape.

# Wintertips

Winter is a season of bitter cold and numbing wetness.

Help your pets remain happy and healthy during the colder months by following these simple guidelines.

Don't leave dogs outdoors when the temperature drops. Most dogs, and all cats, are safer indoors, except when taken out for exercise. Regardless of the season, short haired, very young or old dogs and *all* cats should never be left outside without supervision. Short-coated dogs may feel more comfortable wearing a sweater during walks.

No matter what the temperature, wind chill can threaten a pet's life. A dog or cat is happiest and healthiest when kept indoors. If your dog is an outdoor dog, however, he/she must be protected by a dry, draft-free doghouse that is large enough to allow the dog to sit and lie down comfortably, but small enough to hold in his/her body heat. The floor should be raised a few inches off the ground and covered with cedar shavings or straw. The house should be turned to face away from the wind, and the doorway should be covered with waterproof burlap or heavy plastic.

Pets who spend a lot of time outdoors need more food in the winter because keeping warm takes energy. Routinely check your pet's water dish to make certain the water is fresh and unfrozen. Use plastic food and water bowls rather than metal. When the temperature is low, your pet's tongue can stick and freeze to metal.

Warm car engines attract cats and small wildlife, who may crawl up under the hood. To avoid injuring any hidden animals, bang on your car's hood to scare them away before starting your engine.

The salt and other chemicals used to melt snow and ice can irritate the pads of your pet's feet. Wipe the feet with a damp towel before your pet licks them and irritates his/her mouth.

Antifreeze is a deadly poison, but it has a sweet taste that may attract animals and children. Wipe up spills and store antifreeze (and all household chemicals) out of reach. Better yet, use antifreeze-coolant made with propylene glycol; if swallowed in small amounts, it will not hurt pets, wildlife, or your family.

Probably the best prescription for winter's woes is to keep your dog or cat inside with you and your family. The happiest dogs are those who are taken out frequently for walks and exercise but kept inside the rest of the time. Dogs and cats are social animals who crave human companionship. Your animal companions deserve to live indoors with you and your family.

Adapted from the HSUS

## Remember Liberty Vet Carries a variety of pet products for your gift giving and stocking stuffer needs!

### Stocking stuffers for your cat

- Feline greenies
- Cat collars
- Royal Canin treats
- Aquadent
- Cat nip bags

### Stocking stuffers for your dog

- Tuffy toys
- Reflex leashes and collars
- Hextra Chews
- Veggieident chews
- Slicker brush
- Aquadent

### Gifts for the pets and pet lovers in your life

- Candle for car (air freshener)
- Car magnets
- Pet odor candles (lots of scents!)
- Pill pockets
- Nail clippers
- Pill cutter
- Toothpaste and brushes

- Collar Bandanas
- Shampoos
- Conditioners
- Red Dingo tags
- Oravet home kit
- Pet hair rollers
- Leashes and collars

And don't forget— LVH offers Gift Certificates in the  
denomination of your choice!

Travel tip: Before traveling with your pets, make sure they have all required vaccinations and health papers. If they are on medications, have enough to last through the trip.

When traveling by air, be aware of airline restrictions regarding outside temperature and number of animals allowed per flight. Someone may have already booked a pet, and there are no more allowed. Check with the airline reservations or travel agent for their requirements well in advance, giving you ample time to obtain the necessary paperwork.

If you have travel plans and are unable to take your pets with you, remember Liberty Vet offers boarding to our clients. Call us for information about reservations and requirements.