

Pet Safety Tips All Year Round!

Holiday hazards

Chocolate – That box of chocolates wrapped and trimmed under the tree may satisfy your sweet tooth, but it's poisonous for your dog. Make sure all food-related gifts are tucked away safely.

Turkey – Turkey is delicious, but its bones and fat are too much for your dog's stomach and can cause severe upset. Make sure carcass leftovers are secured away from your dog.

Bones – Bones are never a good choice for a snack, as they may become lodged or splinter in the digestive system.

Tinsel – This shiny decoration is tempting and dogs love to chew and play with glittery tinsel. Unfortunately, they may swallow it and tinsel can become entangled in the intestinal tract. Often, it must be surgically removed.

Stress – You may love company during the holidays, but consider whether your dog does too. Many visitors and unfamiliar faces can cause unnecessary stress to your dog. If you're planning a get together, provide your pet with a quiet, secure place to settle in while you party

Holiday plants – A variety of plants can be toxic to your dog. Check to see if a plant is safe before bringing into your home.

Over feeding – You might overeat during the holidays, but don't increase for your dog. Obesity is one of the major causes of long-term ill

health in pets. Maintain your dog's regular diet and keep plenty of fresh water available at all times.



Safety tips for Summer

Dehydration and Heatstroke – Dogs should always have fresh, clean water available, whether it's summer or winter. Carry portable water bowls on walks and bring them on vacation or long car rides.

During the hot summer months, it's important to remember that your dog have a limited capacity to cool off and can easily become overheated.

Heat stroke can occur when your dog's body isn't able to cope with the external heat. This can lead to illness, organ failure and even death. Leaving your dog in a hot car can lead to death from heat stroke in less than 10 minutes. **Cool coats** operate on an evaporation principle and can further help in maintaining tolerable conditions when your dog is outside for a short period of time.

Water — French Bulldogs are not designed to swim. They are a top heavy breed and can easily tip forward in deep water. When spending time on the water; be sure your dog wears a quality life vest or flotation device that fits correctly. At home, supervised play in a shallow kiddie pool provides both fun and cooling entertainment for your dog. Pool, pond, lake or ocean; never leave your dog unattended in or around water.

Pests – Bees, wasps, mosquitoes, fleas, spiders, snakes etc. are more prevalent in summer and can pose a serious threat to your dog. Stings and bites will very often generate an allergic reaction. Prevention and preparation are your best resources. Talk with your vet about medications to have on hand in the event your dog is exposed to one of these pests. Fleas transmit parasites, such as tapeworm and can cause a severe skin reactions. Flea prevention comes in a number of forms and can be given orally or topically.

The French Bulldog Safety Tips All Year Round!



THEY LOOK TO YOU
TO KEEP THEM SAFE.



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Careful Planning for Activities is Key



Salt water can be toxic to dogs. Many dogs love the ocean and frolicking in the sand, but an excessive intake of salt water can result in severe hyponatremia or salt poisoning. Initial signs include vomiting and diarrhea, but salt poisoning can progress quickly to neurologic signs like walking unsteadily, seizures, progressive depression and brain swelling. Call your vet if your dog is exhibiting these signs. When at a beach with your French Bulldog; always carry fresh drinking water and offer it frequently.

Summer is a great time to enjoy being outdoors. However; heat, humidity, a multitude of pests and toxic substances, require careful planning to ensure the safety of your four-legged friend, on many Summer activities.

Safety tips for Spring

Allergies – Thanks to pollen and other environmental allergies, your dog can get seasonal allergies just like humans. He/she will become very itchy. Some common signs to look out for are, swollen paws, chewing paws, sneezing and itchy ears/ear infection.

Mushrooms – They might spring up in your backyard and local parks. It is important to make sure your dog is not eating these as they can be quite toxic and cause gastrointestinal problems such as vomiting and diarrhea.

Fertilizers & Herbicides – A lot of lawn treatment have toxic chemicals in them that can cause seizures, vomiting and even possibly death. Read directions carefully before you buy and apply. Most will have specific directions and warning for use with pets.

Cleaning products – Spring cleaning! Along with all the cleaning, we have to keep in mind the dangers of the products we use that can harm our dog. Most cleaning products are extremely dangerous and toxic to dogs, keep them locked away or up high so your dog can't accidentally ingest any of them.

Safety tips for Winter

Hypothermia – Do not keep your dog outside for long periods of time. Coats are helpful for winter walks and shelter from wind and the elements is essential if outside during inclement weather. Hypothermia is a medical condition that results in an abnormally low body temperature. Cases can range from mild to severe and can lead to many

serious complications as normal body temperature can no longer be sustained.

Wipe their paws – During winter walks, your dog's paws can pick up all kinds of toxic chemicals – salt, antifreeze or de-icers. Be sure to wipe off your dog's paws when you return from walks to prevent them from licking it off and becoming sick.

Avoid the ice – when walking your dog, be sure to avoid frozen lakes and ponds. Your dog could be seriously hurt or even killed if the ice breaks.

Leave them home – Just as hot cars are dangerous for dogs in summer, cold cars pose a threat as well. Only take your dog in the car if it is necessary, and never leave them unattended.

Safety tips for Autumn/Fall

Mushrooms – Fall is also mushroom season (see Spring).

Antifreeze – Dogs are attracted to the sweet taste of ethylene glycol and one or two tablespoons will poison and kill a dog.

Allergies – Fall will bring out all whole new set of allergies. Ragweed and mould are two big allergy triggers along with grass and dust.

Arthritis – Cold weather can lead to arthritis caused by inflamed joints. If your dog is limping, having trouble moving, jumping, or sitting, moving slower than usual, or whimpering when he/she moves, he/she may be suffering from seasonal arthritis.

Rodenticides – In fall and winter, mice and rats come flocking indoors to warmer surroundings. Putting out rodenticides will get rid of rodents but could also be fatal to your dogs.