



Pyramid Veterinary Hospital
2405 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV 89431
775.356.8323 • pvhcares.com



Top Four Easter Hazards for Pets

As many families prepare to celebrate Easter, it's important to keep in mind that this spring holiday may pose potential hazards for our furry friends. Before you hide eggs in your yard and decorate your home, please read this list of the top four most common Easter Dangers, presented by the [ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center](#) (APCC).

1. Chocolate: The APCC receives several calls each day regarding pets eating chocolate, but the most occur around four holidays: Halloween, Christmas, Valentine's Day and Easter. Chocolate can cause gastrointestinal upset, pancreatitis, stimulation to the nervous system (hyperactivity, tremors and seizures) and elevation in heart rate. The darker the chocolate, the more dangerous it is for pets. **Other ingredients to keep out of your pet's reach include raisins, macadamia nuts, xylitol and alcohol.**

2. Plastic Easter Grass: Pets can't absorb plastic Easter grass into their bodies, which means that it can become lodged in the gastrointestinal tract and wreak havoc. Signs include vomiting, diarrhea, decrease in appetite, lethargy and stomach pain.

3. Plants: Many plants can cause issues for pets, but during this time of year, the APCC sees an uptick in calls about Lilies and bulbs that bloom in spring. Lilies (*Lilium sp* and *Emerocallis sp*) can cause serious concerns for our feline friends. Exposure to any parts of the plant can result in kidney injury and gastrointestinal upset.

4. Fertilizers and Herbicides
Easter weekend is popular to begin gardening and yardwork, using **fertilizers and herbicides**. Make sure they are stored where pets can't chew or puncture the bottle, and keep pets indoors while applying. Always follow the instructions and do not let your pet out again until the product has been watered in or is dry.
If you think that your pet may have ingested a potentially poisonous substance, call your veterinarian or the ASPCA Poison Control Center at (888) 426-4435 immediately.

For the complete article, visit:
<https://www.asPCA.org/news/top-four-easter-hazards-pets>