



# Protect Your Pet

## From Harmful Garden Plants This Summer



**Emergency**  
Contact your vet

### How plants poison pets...

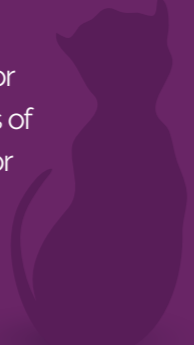
#### Dogs

- As puppies are so curious, they are the most at risk of eating poisonous plants. If possible, keep plants, flowers and bulbs out of their reach.



#### Cats

- It's rare that cats will ingest outdoor plants, but indoor cats are more likely to be poisoned by houseplants.
- Young cats and kittens are most at risk since they're interested in new objects
- It is also possible for cats to ingest parts of poisonous plants or seeds caught in their fur during grooming.



#### Rabbits

- There are a few ways that rabbits may ingest poisonous plants:
  - If they are mixed into their food.
  - When no other food is available.
- As rabbits are unable to vomit, the poison has no way of being removed and will travel through their digestive system.



### Steps To Take If You Think Your Pet Has Eaten a Poisonous Plant

There are many signs of plant poisoning, including drooling, mouth irritation, vomiting, and diarrhoea. If you see these, you should:

- Remove the plant from your pet's reach
- Get in touch with us immediately, even if there are no symptoms yet
- Avoid forcing your pet to vomit unless one of our vets has directed you to do this (and keep in mind that rabbits are unable to vomit)
- Try to work out when the plant was ingested and how much of it
- Keep an eye out for any symptoms
- Come to our practice with your pet and the plant

### What Happens Next?

- An antidote is administered** if one is available. Although plant toxins have very few antidotes so this may not be possible.
- We may induce vomiting in your pet**, if the plant was eaten within a certain time period.
- Supportive treatment is carried out:**
  - To alleviate any symptoms as they happen
  - To keep organs functioning normally
  - To remove toxins from your pet's system



### Common Plants that can be Harmful to Dogs, Cats and Rabbits



#### AZALEAS and RHODODENRONS

- If chewed or swallowed, all parts of these plants can cause negative side effects
- These can include irritation of the mouth, vomiting, diarrhoea, depression, breathing difficulties and an increased heart rate
- In severe cases, your pet may suffer from an irregular heartbeat, a drop in blood pressure, severe weakness of the legs, un-coordination and it can even be fatal.



#### DAFFODILS

- All parts can be harmful if eaten, but the bulbs are especially toxic
- If your pet eats this plant, they may suffer from a skin reaction, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, an irregular heartbeat, tremors, convulsions, and a decreased in blood pressure. These symptoms may begin to show within 15 minutes of the plant being eaten
- Potentially fatal.



#### FOXGLOVE

- Harmful leaves and seeds
- This plant can cause vomiting, diarrhoea, an irregular heartbeat, heart failure, and, in worst case scenarios, even death
- Potentially fatal.



#### LILIES

- All parts are poisonous, including the stamens, pollen, flowers, bulbs and vase water
- Signs of toxicity include vomiting, anorexia, depression, and kidney failure
- Potentially fatal.



#### ENGLISH IVY

- The leaves and berries of this plant can cause, drooling, vomiting and diarrhoea when eaten
- There may also be blood in your pet's vomit and faeces
- Coming into contact with ivy may cause itchy skin reactions like a rash, sore, and reddened eyes



#### RHUBARB

- Eating large amounts of this plant can cause symptoms such as drooling, kidney failure, tremors and can potentially be fatal to your pet.



#### TULIPS

- All parts of this plant can be harmful to your pet, but the bulbs are especially toxic
- Even so, tulips are still considered to be less toxic than daffodils
- Symptoms of ingestion can include a skin reaction, mouth irritation, drooling, vomiting, diarrhoea, and depression.



#### LILY OF THE VALLEY

- The leaves, flowers and roots can be harmful
- This plant can cause vomiting, diarrhoea, irregular heart-beat, low blood pressure and disorientation
- In severe cases, your pet may develop seizures and go into a coma.

If you would like further advice about the possible hazards of any garden or houseplants, please don't hesitate to phone your local vet practice and speak to a member of our staff.