

## SFAH Client Care Series

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## Canine Toxins (Foods & Plants)

Substances	Symptoms	Substances	Symptoms
Alcoholic beverages	Can cause intoxication, coma, and death.	Onions and garlic (raw, cooked, or powder)	Contain sulfoxides and disulfides, which can damage red blood cells and cause anemia. Cats are more susceptible than dogs. Garlic is less toxic than onions.
Baby food	Can contain onion powder, which can be toxic to dogs. (Please see onion below.) Can also result in nutritional deficiencies, if fed in large amounts.	Persimmons	Seeds can cause intestinal obstruction and enteritis.
Bones from fish, poultry, or other meat sources	Can cause obstruction or laceration of the digestive system.	Pits from peaches and plums	Can cause obstruction of the digestive tract.
Cat food	Generally too high in protein and fats.	Potato, rhubarb, and tomato leaves; potato and tomato stems	Contain oxalates, which can affect the digestive, nervous, and urinary systems. This is more of a problem in livestock.
Chocolate, coffee, tea, and other caffeine	Contain caffeine, theobromine, or theophylline, which can be toxic and affect the heart and nervous systems.	Raw eggs	Contain an enzyme called avidin, which decreases the absorption of biotin (a B vitamin). This can lead to skin and hair coat problems. Raw eggs may also contain <i>Salmonella</i> .
Citrus oil extracts	Can cause vomiting.	Raw fish	Can result in a thiamine (a B vitamin) deficiency leading to loss of appetite, seizures, and in severe cases, death. More common if raw fish is fed regularly.
Fat trimmings	Can cause pancreatitis.	Salt	If eaten in large quantities it may lead to electrolyte imbalances.
Hops	Unknown compound causes panting, increased heart rate, elevated temperature, seizures, and death.	Sugary foods	Can lead to obesity, dental problems, and possibly diabetes mellitus.
Human vitamin supplements containing iron	Can damage the lining of the digestive system and be toxic to the other organs including the liver and kidneys.	Table scraps (in large amounts)	Table scraps are not nutritionally balanced. They should never be more than 10% of the diet. Fat should be trimmed from meat; bones should not be fed.

Large amounts of liver	Can cause Vitamin A toxicity, which affects muscles and bones.	Tobacco	Contains nicotine, which affects the digestive and nervous systems. Can result in rapid heart beat, collapse, coma, and death.
Macadamia nuts	Contain an unknown toxin, which can affect the digestive and nervous systems and muscle.	Yeast dough	Can expand and produce gas in the digestive system, causing pain and possible rupture of the stomach or intestines.
Milk and other dairy products	Some adult dogs and cats do not have sufficient amounts of the enzyme lactase, which breaks down the lactose in milk. This can result in diarrhea. Lactose-free milk products are available for pets.	Xylitol (sugar substitute), anything containing Xylitol	Lethargy, hypoglycemia
Moldy or spoiled food, garbage	Can contain multiple toxins causing vomiting and diarrhea and can also affect other organs.		
Mushrooms	Can contain toxins, which may affect multiple systems in the body, cause shock, and result in death.	Kalanchoe	May cause gastrointestinal irritation, heart conditions, effect cardiac rhythms and rate.
Lillies	Considered to be highly toxic to cats. Ingestion of small very amounts may cause severe kidney damage.	Yew	May cause trembling, incoordination, difficulty breathing, significant gastrointestinal irritation, cardiac failure, death.
Marijuana	Ingestion may result in depression of the central nervous system, vomiting, diarrhea, drooling, increased heart rate, seizures and coma.	Amaryllis	May cause vomiting, depression, diarrhea, abdominal pain, hypersalivation, anorexia, tremors.
Sago Palm	All parts of this plant are poisonous. The ingestion of one or two seeds may result in vomiting, diarrhea, seizures, and liver failure.	Chrysanthemum	Symptoms may include gastrointestinal upset, drooling, vomiting, diarrhea, depression, loss of coordination.
Tulip / Narcissus bulbs	The bulbs of this plant may cause intense gastrointestinal irritation, drooling, diarrhea, loss of appetite, depression of the central nervous system, convulsions and cardiac abnormalities.	English ivy	May cause vomiting, abdominal pain, hypersalivation, diarrhea.
Azalea / Rhododendron	May cause vomiting, diarrhea, depression of the central nervous system, coma, and death from cardiovascular collapse.	Peace Lily (aka Mauna Loa Peace Lily)	Symptoms may include oral irritation, excessive drooling, vomiting, difficulty swallowing, intense burning and irritation of the mouth.
Oleander	Symptoms may include gastrointestinal irritation, abnormal heart function, hypothermia, death.	Castor Bean	May produce severe abdominal pain, drooling, vomiting, diarrhea, excessive thirst, weakness, lost of appetite, dehydration, muscle twitching, tremors, seizures, death.

Cyclamen	Toxin is typically found in the	Poinsettia	Symptoms may include
	root. May cause significant		drooling, vomiting, diarrhea.
	gastrointestinal irritation,		
	intense vomiting, death.		
Pothos	Symptoms may include	Schefflera	May cause oral irritation,
	significant joint irritation,		drooling, vomiting, difficulty
	swelling of the oral tissues and		swallowing, intense burning
	other gastrointestinal tissues.		and irritation of the mouth and
			tongue.

For a more complete listing of plants that are toxic to your pet please visit www.aspca.org/pet-care/poison-control/plants