Have a Healthy, Happy Holiday with Your Pets

If your furry companions are joining your holiday festivities, here’s how you can celebrate safely.

Holly, Jolly, and Safe!

While most pet owners are aware of the dangers of chocolate and candles, many other holiday items and products brought by guests can also be perilous for pets, including tinsel, medications, salt dough ornaments, xylitol, and alcoholic beverages.

Party Time Precautions

Just like people, some pets are introverts and some are extroverts! A shy pet may benefit from a quiet place away from the party, and an excitable pet will be better behaved with some exercise before the celebrations begin. With guests entering and exiting, it can also be easier for pets to escape out the door. Always ensure your pet has a personalized ID tag with your name and phone number, and an up-to-date microchip.

Travel Tips for Happy Tails

If you’re hitting the road for the holidays, get your pet used to traveling in the car ahead of time. Tire out high-energy dogs before the ride, and give animals a toy or treat to help keep them occupied during the trip. A block of ice in a bowl can be a great alternative to a water bowl to keep your pet hydrated and reduce spills.

For safety info on-the-go, download the APCC Mobile App at ASPCA.org/apcc-app to help keep your pets safe at the holidays and all year long.