



Cold Weather Precautions:

In cold weather, water bowls can freeze quickly. Snow is not an adequate source of water for pets. Fresh water should be offered 2-3 times daily in large bowls or buckets so they freeze more slowly. Alternatively, a heated water dish may be an option.

If outside all the time, pets need a place to get out of the elements. An insulated doghouse just big enough for the pet to turn around in provides good shelter. Clean, dry straw for bedding will provide good insulation and help the pet stay warm. In extremely cold weather, even arctic breeds should be brought into the house.

In cold weather, outdoor pets may increase their metabolic rate by 70 to 80% just to maintain body temperature. This means that an outdoor animal will need to eat more food. A good guideline is to increase feeding by about 25% initially and then monitor their weight. Remember to decrease the food again in warmer weather.

There is no doubt that cats can be inventive in finding places to stay warm. They are often found in engine compartments and sitting on top of warm tires. When a vehicle starts, these can be very dangerous places.

Antifreeze often needs changing this time of year. Remember that ethylene glycol is highly toxic. Even very small amounts can kill a dog or cat. Keep sources of antifreeze away from pets and clean up any spills quickly. If you think your pet has been exposed to antifreeze, call a veterinarian immediately.

Holiday Hazards:

Fun things abound during the holidays. Christmas trees, food, presents, beautiful plants of many varieties, company, candles, and many family traditions. As much fun as all these things are, remember that they can pose dangers and stresses for our furry friends.

Many plants can be toxic and cause vomiting and diarrhea, kidney failure, and in some cases death. Make sure to keep your plants out of reach of your pet.

All that wonderful food can be very tempting to pets. Chocolate, gravy, cookies, butter, lefsa, turkey, other rich things like fløtegrøde and many more family favorites are plentiful. While these are good treats for us, many pets will have severe digestive problems if they eat these. Vomiting and diarrhea are common. These regularly require hospitalization for supportive care, and sometimes become life threatening. Instruct your guests not to give your pet food while they are visiting.

Holiday decorations have many dangers. Candles can directly burn a pet, or get knocked over and start a fire. Electrical cords can be chewed on and severe burns or electrocution can result. Ribbons, tinsel, ornaments and other decorations can be eaten causing toxicity, intestinal obstruction or other problems, or broken and cause lacerations. Keep all tempting decorations out of the reach of your pet.

A small amount of time spent on precautions around your home during the holidays, may help prevent a costly health problem or even the death of your pet. Your holidays will be happier with a healthy and safe pet in your home.



Heidi and Dr. Lindquist wish you, your family and your pets a safe and happy holiday season.



Bobtown Pet Clinic

715-749-4006



511 Cherry Lane
Roberts, WI 54023

www.bobtownpetclinic.com

Kit N' Trim Cat Treats

½ lb lean ground turkey
1 egg
½ cup cornmeal
1 cup oatmeal

Preheat Oven to 350 degrees. Combine all ingredients. Roll mixture into little balls and place on an ungreased cookie sheet. Bake for 40 minutes or until inside of ball is not pink. Makes 3 dozen.

Recipe taken from "Pawsitively Tasty Recipes". Recipes for people, dogs, cats, goats and horses.

Books can be purchased at Bobtown Pet Clinic for \$10. 100% of purchase price goes to help fund PAWS of Western Wisconsin.

February is National Pet Dental Health Month.

During February, we will be offering a 10% discount on all professional dental services. If we have recommended your pet have its teeth examined and cleaned, this would be an excellent opportunity. If you have concerns about your pet's oral health, please make an appointment so we can help determine if a professional dentistry is needed.

Donate a new or used blanket or towel to the clinic for patient comfort, and receive a free regular nail trim for your pet.

Holiday Hours

December 24: Closing at 1pm.

December 25: Closed.

December 31: Closing at 4pm.

January 1: Closed