

Thanksgiving Safety Tips for Pets



The air is finally cooler and it's the time of year for celebrating with good food, friends and family. It can also be a time of distress for furry family members if proper precautions are not taken. Follow these tips to keep your pets safe and happy during the holiday.

- **Turkey Treats** - If you decide to feed your pet a special turkey treat, make sure it's boneless and well cooked to avoid salmonella poisoning and choking.
- **Beware of Stuffing** - Sage is a great addition to flavor a stuffing dish, but this herb and many other herbs contain essential oils that can cause an upset stomach and central nervous system depression to pets if eaten in large amounts. Cats are especially sensitive to these herbs.
- **Avoid Bread Dough** - If raw dough is ingested, an animal's body heat can cause the dough to rise in the stomach and expand; causing a life-threatening emergency.
- **Try An Alternative Treat** - Thanksgiving is a time of thanks for all of the blessings in our life. You can show your appreciation for your pet without causing them any unnecessary harm. Give them a special treat this year: rawhide strips, chew bones or even stuff their usual dinner - perhaps with a few tidbits of turkey and dribbles of gravy inside a Kong toy. They will be happily chew on this safe alternative for hours. You can also dribble a bit of chicken broth over their normal dinner to give them a taste of the holiday as well.

Brought to you by Kern County Animal Control.

For more information, please call 661-321-3000 or log onto www.co.kern.ca.us/acd