



Holiday Caution List

HALLOWEEN

Caution adolescents not to use Halloween as an excuse to harass the neighborhood dog. Scared dogs may bite to protect their property.

Do not give the dog any treats. His system is not adapted for the high sugar content.

Walk your dog early on Halloween night and hold him firmly on the leash as he may be distracted or scared easily. Dogs don't understand masks and can be overwhelmed by shrieking children.

Keep your dog far from the front door. If your dog is a "barker," perhaps you will want to get to the front door before trick or treaters ring your bell.

THANKSGIVING

Keep the dog out of the kitchen. Do not give in to your dog and feed it table scraps. Be firm with guests not to slip your dog any "treats."

Turkey bones are dangerous! Tie up garbage tightly and remove as soon as possible so dogs aren't tempted to look for bones and food in the trash.

CHRISTMAS

An animal's stress may result in flight or fight instincts. Stressed-out dogs have been known to bite guests or bolt through an open door to escape the noise. As the host or hostess, you may not even realize your dog is missing

until many hours and miles later.

Train your dog to stay away from the tree. Some dogs will be tempted to lay beneath it, but it's not safe. Dogs can break ornaments and get cut or swallow small pieces.

Children guests who are not familiar with dogs could sit on your dog or pull his tail or fur. If your dog reacts to stress by fighting back, these children are in danger of being bitten.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Adult party-goers can be cruel and senseless. Under no conditions should guests give your dog alcohol because they think "it's cute."

Dogs can get ill from drinking and eating rich foods which are different from their usual diet. Paws and tails are susceptible to being stepped on while guests mingle and dance.

Some people just don't like to have dogs around. Keeping your dog out of sight may be the best thing for you, your dog and your guests.

Confine your dog to a separate area of the house and put up a sign warning guests that there is a dog inside and "Do not open the door."

Make sure your dog is wearing traceable identification in case he does get loose.