

Newfie News



October 2024

VOLUME 6

ISSUE 2

Taking The Spooky Out Of Halloween For Your Newf

Halloween is a truly magical time for most children. Getting dressed up in their favorite costume and collecting candy from all the neighbors makes it one of the most fun nights of the year. But that fun can soon turn to horror for pets.

All those chocolate bars, hard candies and candy corn that the younger ones brought home – or the candy adults have to hand out – are toxic to dogs. Most dog owners know that chocolate (of any variety) is a no-no for their furry family members, but there are other toxins you may not be aware of or foods you thought were toxic but aren't as scary as you were led to believe.

Chocolate – yes, all forms of chocolate – milk, dark and white - are toxic to canines. But in general they would have to ingest a fairly large amount proportionate to their size to reach a dangerous stage. Dark chocolate, however, does have higher toxicity levels, due to a higher content of methylxanthines, which is similar to caffeine and more heavily concentrated in darker varieties. For perspective, one ounce of Baker's chocolate can sicken a 50-pound dog. If your Newf sneaks a fun-size Hershey bar, there's no need to panic. But do watch out for any tummy trouble or other symptoms. And put candy out of your Newf's reach to avoid temptation.

Raisins – and their hydrated counterpart, grapes – can cause kidney failure in pets, even when a small amount is eaten.

Sugar free candy - Xylitol is an artificial sweetener used in candy and other products, including chewing gum to toothpaste. And it's highly toxic to pets. It can trigger hypoglycemia (an insulin release) in cats and dogs, leading to seizures and liver failure. If you suspect your Newf or Tabby has eaten even a single sugar-free hard candy, call your veterinarian to be seen immediately.

Other hard candies – can be a choking hazard and cause obstructions if multiple candies stick together in the stomach. Hard candy is slippery when wet and can easily be inhaled into the

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What's Inside

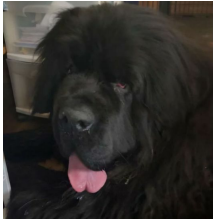
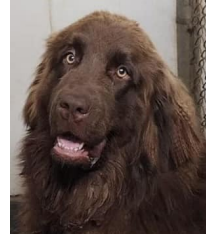
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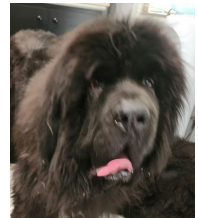
Who's At TNP?

10-month old Sarah has been vetted and is ready for her new home. She was surrendered due to family illness. Sarah is good with other dogs, but can only be placed in a home with male dogs or as an only dog. Her experience with cats and children is unknown. Check the TNP Facebook page and future newsletters for updates.



Raven has been vetted and is looking for her new family. This 3 1/2 year old sweetie was surrendered due to family hardship. Watch for updates on the TNP Facebook page and future newsletters.

Hudson is 4 1/2 years old and ready for a new home after being surrendered to TNP due to family hardship. Check the TNP Facebook page and future newsletters for updates.



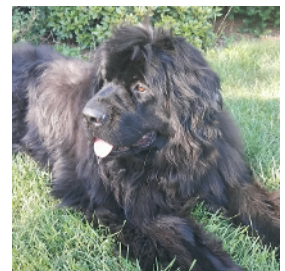
Interested in adopting from TNP?

All dogs are placed only in APPROVED homes. Email Nancy for an application: nancy@thatnewfoundlandplace.org. Home checks are also required (virtual or in person). Keep in mind that TNP places dogs in homes that are in the best interest of the dog, but welcomes applicants to express interest in dogs through TNP Facebook posts.

October 1st is National Black Dog Day

Celebrate your black Newf on National Black Dog Day! While black is the predominant fur color for Newfoundlands, that has not always been the case.

Newfoundlands were developed in the 15th and 16th century from dogs brought to the province of Newfoundland in Canada from Europe by explorers. Newfoundland dogs were white and black (what we refer to as Landseer today) or white and brown. In the 1840s, the "Solid" gene was introduced into the British population of Newfoundland dogs, creating the black version of the Newf that is so common today. Since the solid gene is dominant over the spotted gene that makes black and white or brown and white coloring, and because of selective breeding, the majority of Newfoundland dogs remain solid black.



Sources/More Information:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4629574/#:~:text=This%20article%20makes%20use%20of,Newfoundland%20dogs%20are%20solid%20black.>

<http://www.newfoundlandpuppies.org/breedhistory.html#:~:text=They%20evolved%20from%20the%20American,and%2016th%20century%20by%20explorer's.>

Expert Excerpts

By Dr. Lauren Flanagan
Pepperell (MA) Veterinary Hospital

Leptospirosis

Most likely every year at your dog's annual wellness visit to the veterinarian they mention that your dog is due for their lepto vaccine. As a veterinarian, I often get the question "what is lepto?" I will try to explain.

Leptospirosis, a.k.a. Lepto, is a disease caused by infection with a spirochete bacteria. There are many different species and serovars of the organism, some of which cause disease, some of which do not cause disease, and some of which can be carried by their host without causing a problem to the host, (asymptomatic carrier), but when transmitted to another species can cause disease.

The bacteria is usually transmitted through contaminated water sources; slow moving streams, ponds, even puddles after rainfall. The bacteria are typically excreted in the urine of infected or carrier wildlife and livestock. Any family pet that can come in contact with this contaminated water source, or even just contact where a carrier host has urinated, is at risk of exposure to lepto.

The "classic" lepto patient presents to the veterinarian in acute kidney failure. But what we have learned is that there really is no classic presentation. Any dog presenting with a fever or lethargy could potentially have leptospirosis. Typically we expect fever, vomiting, diarrhea, and profound lethargy. Some dogs present with liver disease, as well as kidney disease. Some dogs are "just not themselves". There is even a pulmonary hemorrhagic syndrome secondary to lepto. So, as you can see, leptospirosis can present in many different ways, so really every dog that is sick could be considered a potential leptospirosis case.

Next month: Intervention and treatment

Now Available! Cathy's Crew hoodies and bibs



Cathy's Crew is a special project within TNP that ensures elderly or hard to home animals have a beautiful farm in Connecticut with space, resources and love to live out their lives safely forever. The farm is the life work of animal rescue legend Cathy Derench who was the divine intervention to thousands of animals that found a new beginning because they crossed Cathy's path. All animals that have been rescued, crossed paths or helped in any way by Cathy are part of Cathy's Crew.

Order at:

<https://cathyscrew.checkoutstores.com/>

Taking the Scary out of Halloween for Your Newf continued from page 1

windpipe, obstructing breathing.

Caramel apples – apple seeds contain a form of cyanide.

Candy corn (and other high sugar treats) – can disrupt the digestive tract, cause dehydration and abdominal pain. Large ingestions of sugary, high-fat candy can lead to pancreatitis in pets, which is potentially fatal. Symptoms of toxicity may not show up for two to four days after eating the candy and include decreased appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, and abdominal pain. Your Newf is likely safe if he just had a nibble (2 teaspoons or less) but if you notice the entire bowl missing, contact your veterinarian immediately.

Candy wrappers – can cause a blockage since they are not digestible and don't break down in the stomach. Surgery may be required in extreme cases. At the very least, the intestinal tract can become inflamed. Watch for vomiting, decreased appetite, not defecating or straining to defecate, or lethargy.

Lollipop sticks – can cause an internal puncture if swallowed whole.

Nuts - Macadamia nuts are highly toxic and can cause tremors or hyperthermia in dogs and cats. Other nuts contain high amounts of oil and fat which can cause vomiting and diarrhea if eaten in large quantities.

Pumpkin - pure pumpkin – in reasonable quantities - is good for dogs. (Check out the pumpkin ice cream recipe on the right!) The rotting jack o'lantern is another story and can harbor bacteria.

Other dangers

Costumes – it's hard to deny that many pets looks cute in costumes, but often it's not as joyful for our Newfs. If you dress your pet in a costume, make sure it doesn't obstruct vision, movement or air

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Oct. 30 is National Treat Your Pet Day! Try one of these fun Halloween themed frozen treats to make your Newf's day special.

Pumpkin Ice Cream

Makes a "soft serve" ice cream that is safe for humans too!

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup plain non-fat Greek yogurt
- 1/3 cup creamy peanut butter (make sure the peanut butter doesn't contain xylitol, since it's toxic).
- 1/2 cup canned pumpkin (NOT pumpkin pie mix)

Make it!

Mix all ingredients in a mixing bowl until well blended

Spoon the mixture into silicone molds, small plastic cups, ice cube trays, or small bowls

Freeze for 2 hours

Store in an air-tight container in the freezer

<https://drooliciousdogtreats.com/simple-pumpkin-dog-ice-cream/>

Ghoulish Frozen Treats

Ingredients

- Raw goat milk
- Small treats
- Chicken foot or chicken neck



©Pinterest

Make it!

Pour the goat's milk in a small cup for each treat

Add in small treats

Top with a chicken foot or neck

Freeze for 2 hours

<https://www.dogtipper.com/recipes/2017/10/create-a-spooky-halloween-treat-for-your-dog.html>



intake. Costumes should not contain snaps or buttons that could be chewed off and ingested. And avoid using any dye or coloring on your pet's fur as it could be harmful.

Glow Sticks and Glow Jewelry – if your dog or cat is a chewer, make sure they don't have access to glow sticks or glow jewelry, While not life-threatening, the liquid contents can cause pain and irritation in the mouth, as well as profuse drooling and foaming at the mouth.

Candles – Carved pumpkins with candles are a staple of Halloween. But lit candles, can burn dog's noses if they get too close for a sniff. Also be mindful of the Newfie tail, which can be powerful and knock a candle over or even catch fire if it gets close enough to the flame.

What to do if your dog does get into the Halloween candy

If you're certain that your pet has eaten Halloween candy, contact your veterinarian as soon as possible. Don't wait until any symptoms to develop, because once your pet is sick, toxins may have already been absorbed.

You may also want to contact a poison control hotline such as the ASPCA (888-426-4435. You may be charged a consultation fee.) or **Chewy's Connect with a Vet** (Free live chat available daily 6 a.m. - 12 a.m. ET). Staying calm is key as your Newf can sense your emotions, and feed off your panic. Work through the situation with a veterinarian as quickly and calmly as possible.

Sources/More Information:

https://www.asPCA.org/news/fact-or-myth-truth-about-these-pet-toxins?ms=em_new_news-apcc-myths-20220128&initialms=em_new_news-apcc-myths-20220128&utm_campaign=newsalert&utm_source=SFMC&utm_medium=email&eml_id=37948&eml_name=News+Alert+2022.01.28+-+20220127_094838&utm_content=

<https://www.4pawsanimal.com/services/cats-dogs/blog/six-pet-poison-myths-solved#:~:text=Myth%20%236:%20Human%20food%20is,and%20quantity%20of%20food%20ingested.>

<https://www.petpoisonhelpline.com/pet-owners/seasons/halloween/>

<https://manypets.com/us/blog/pet-poisons/>

<https://www.humanesociety.org/resources/halloween-safety-tips-pets>

<https://www.petmd.com/emergency/most-dangerous-halloween-candies-dogs>

Scary or Safe?

There is lots of information floating around about what is toxic for your pet. Let's look at some common beliefs to find out if they are fact or myth.

Inducing vomiting will get rid of toxins

It may seem logical to get rid of the toxins as quickly as possible, but **DO NOT DO SO UNLESS DIRECTED BY A VETERINARIAN**. Some problems are made worse by vomiting.

If you are advised to induce vomiting, give your pet salt until he vomits

Digesting salt can cause stomach upset and possibly electrolyte imbalance, heart problems, tremors and seizures.

Give Hydrogen peroxide to make your dog vomit

While 3% hydrogen peroxide is often prescribed to induce vomiting in dogs, too much can cause significant stomach issues, making the problem worse. Always talk to a veterinarian to get the correct dosing instructions.

Milk is a universal antidote

Just as in humans, milk can be used to decrease oral and stomach irritation from caustic substances, but can also be a cause of stomach upset.

Burnt toast will absorb ingested toxins

If your pet does swallow toxins, activated charcoal will help with absorption. Burnt toast, however, contains carbon and will have no effect in removing the toxin.

Eggs are good for your pet's health

Cooked eggs – in moderation – are good for the skin and coat. But raw eggs can contain bacteria and can cause stomach upset. And be mindful that some dogs are allergic to eggs.

Garlic gets rid of fleas

Garlic has no effect in getting rid of fleas and actually makes the infestation worse. Even more concerning, garlic is toxic to pets in large quantities and can damage red blood cells.

Essential oils can be used to treat skin conditions

Depending on the oil and whether it was swallowed or exposed to the skin, serious effects can occur including vomiting, depression, muscle weakness, ataxia, low body temperature, liver failure, difficulty breathing, collapse, or seizures.

My pet won't eat things that taste bad

Pets eat all kinds of things humans find disgusting and may not realize something has an unpleasant taste until it is swallowed. Also, many toxins, such as chocolate, are very appealing to pets.

Natural products are safe

Just because a product is labeled as natural does not necessarily mean nontoxic. Read all ingredients carefully.

Poinsettias are highly toxic, especially to cats

While the milky white sap of poinsettias can cause oral irritation, salivation, vomiting, and

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diarrhea, it is only mildly toxic to cats and a dog would need to eat a large quantity to be affected. Lilies are actually more toxic to cats and all parts of the plant are poisonous.

Dairy is safe for my pets

Pets don't have the proper enzymes to break down cow's milk, so dairy products can lead to digestive problems, including diarrhea.

If you have questions about what is safe for your pet or what to do if your canine or feline family member has swallowed something they shouldn't have, always check with a veterinarian rather than relying on hearsay or other sources.

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

Thinking of leaving a bequest to TNP?

Donations should be made payable to:
That Newfoundland Place, Inc.
EIN (Tax ID): 27-2176439

Payment Address:
554 Pucker Street
Coventry, CT 06238

Thank you for your consideration!

To continue to support Cathy's work & her foundation please see below.
Thank you for all the generous support.

THAT NEWFOUNDLAND PLACE DONATIONS

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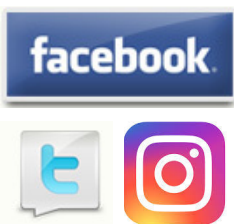
 



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<https://www.americanexpress.com/en-us/banking/round-up/frequently-asked-questions/>

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