

Welcome to our 2022 Autumn Newsletter!

Getting prepared for the spooky season

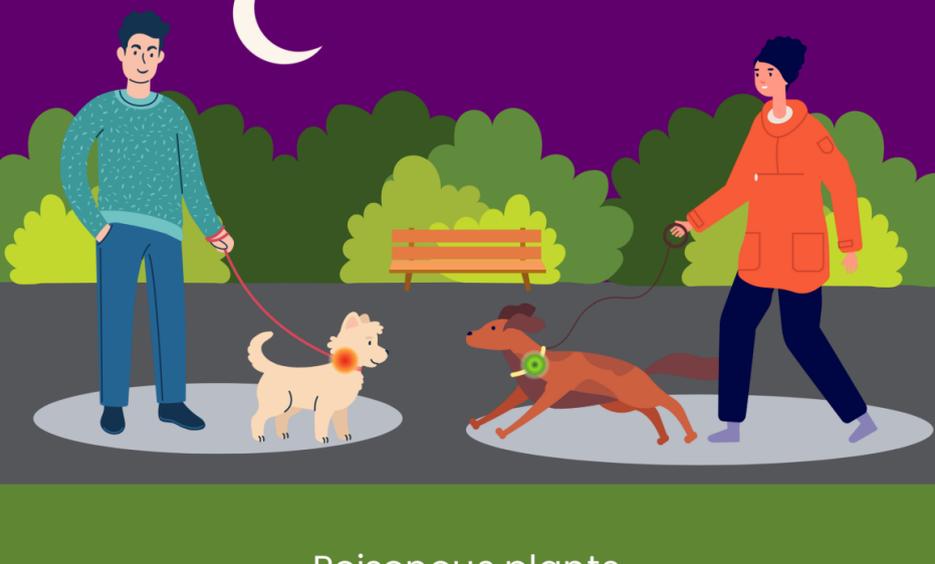
- 1 Draw curtains to keep bright lights out. Reduce impact of flashes.
- 2 Keep the radio or TV on to mask the bangs. Keep radio on when out of the house.
- 3 Cover hutches or bring indoors. Give extra bedding to allow them to burrow.
- 4 Try to keep Halloween decorations away from pets as can be harmful if swallowed.
- 5 Avoid letting your pet outside when fireworks are going off nearby.
- 6 Keep sweet treats out of reach of pets. Remember chocolate is highly toxic for pets.
- 7 Check your pet's microchip is up to date in the unlikely event of them running away.
- 8 Provide safe hiding places in your home. Cover with blankets and extra bedding.
- 9 Keep pets away from the front door so they aren't frightened by trick or treaters.



Preparing for the dark and chilly nights

When the dark nights begin to set in they can bring certain challenges for you and your pets.

- Ensure that your dog has reflective lights on their collar, harness or lead that way you and your pet can be easily seen.
- Consider taking a torch or phone on your walk to help keep you and your pet safe when dark.
- If possible, try and walk your dog earlier when it is lighter outside.
- Keep an extra eye out for your feline friends to make sure they are home safely before it gets dark.
- Always make sure outdoor small pets and rabbits are prepared for the cold nights. Provide extra hay and hutch covers to keep them warm while keeping hutches off the ground.



Poisonous plants

Autumn can also come with a mixture of poisonous plants, therefore it's a good idea to check that your garden is pet-safe and free from harmful plants.

- 1 **Ivy** (Hedera species) Ivy can cause digestive upset such as vomiting, diarrhea and abdominal cramps. Excessive drooling is a symptom of ivy poisoning.



- 2 **Conkers**

Conkers contain a poison called aesculin which can cause vomiting, diarrhoea and abdominal pain.



- 3 **Acorns**

Acorns contain a chemical called gallotannin that's toxic to dogs and ingestion can cause liver and kidney damage.



- 4 **Fungi & mushrooms**

Fungi & mushrooms begin to appear in damp, autumn months. Some wild mushrooms are highly toxic and, if swallowed, can cause kidney and liver failure.



Back to school

Getting back into a routine of school and work after the summer holidays may seem normal, however your pets may be feeling anxious and sad to see you go.

- Separation anxiety can be a problem that occurs when it comes to getting back to everyday life.
- It's important to prepare your pet to be happy when home alone. Provide lots of safe and fun activities to prevent anxiety and boredom.
- Try filling Kong's and licky pads with your pets favourite treat to help keep them busy while they are home alone.



Have you joined our Pet Health Plan?

We offer a variety of Dog & Cat Pet Health Care Plans to suit all ages from their very young years, adult time and the all-important senior years.

Prices depend largely on the weight of your pet and the type of plan chosen. Spread the cost across the year with a monthly direct debit.

Please do not hesitate to visit our [website](#), call on **01341 422212** or [email](#) to find out more.



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