

# What to do if your pet gets poisoned

Your pet has just ingested something toxic. What do you do? First, take a deep breath. The more calm, cool, and collected you are, the sooner you can seek the correct medical attention. Then get a handle on the situation by taking the following steps:



1. Remove your pet from the area. Make sure no other pets or children are exposed to the area, and safely remove any poisonous material.
2. Check to make sure your pet is breathing normally and acting fine otherwise.
3. Collect a sample of the material, along with the packaging, vial, or container. You'll need that information to help your veterinarian or a pet poison expert assess the situation.
4. Don't give your dog any milk, food, salt, oil, or any other home remedies. Doing so will likely complicate the poisoning.
5. Never induce vomiting without talking to your veterinarian or a pet poison expert—doing so may be detrimental or contraindicated. Sometimes, to induce vomiting in dogs, it may be recommended to give hydrogen peroxide. However, hydrogen peroxide won't help induce vomiting in cats, and stronger veterinary prescription medications are necessary to get your cat to vomit up any toxins.
6. **Get help.** Program our phone number into your phone, as well as an emergency veterinarian's number and a pet poison hotline number.
  - 24-hour Pet Poison Hotlines:
    - **Pet Poison Helpline at 800-213-6680 (\$39 per call)**
    - **American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animal's Animal Poison Control Center at 888-426-4435 (\$65 per call)**
  - Animal Hospital of Shawnee Hills main line 614.389.6455 or our emergency line after hours 614.578.9984 until 10 PM
  - Veterinary Emergency hospitals open 24 hours, 7 days a week year-round:
    - OSU Veterinary Emergency Hospital in Dublin 614.889.8070
    - MedVet Emergency Services in Worthington 614.846.5800

**Remember that a pet's prognosis is always better when toxicity is reported immediately, so don't wait to see if your pet becomes symptomatic before calling for help. Calling right away is safer for your pet and could help you save on treatment costs in the long run. Remember that there's a narrow window of time to decontaminate in cases of poisoning.**