

# Winter

Dec/Jan/Feb

Gwinnett Animal Hospital, 2015



**a winter PET SAFETY GUIDE**

REMEMBER: if you are cold, your pet may be too!

Provide plenty of food and water.

Keep your pet on a leash.

Keep your pets indoors and warm.

Clean your pet's paws after going outside.

Be careful around frozen lakes and streams.

If you must leave your pet outside, make sure the space is dry and well-insulated.

Consider a coat or a sweater.

Never leave your pet in your car.

Happy Holidays from your friends at ProtectAmerica.com

This year, our **Giving Tree** is supporting the **Gwinnett Jail Dogs & Cats**, & **Bliss Animal Haven**. The jail program helps socialize and train shelter animals so they can be rehomed, and Bliss cares for geriatric and special needs animals. Both organizations do such great work for animals less fortunate than ours, please consider coming by the hospital to choose an ornament or to make a donation to help out this holiday season!



## Watch out for *Xylitol* toxicity!

Xylitol is an artificial sweetener found in many human food items— sugar-free chewing gum & candy, vitamins, baked goods, toothpaste, and many more. While safe for human consumption, in dogs this substance quickly causes low blood sugar, vomiting, and liver damage. Without prompt treatment, this substance can be fatal!

For more information, visit [www.vetstreet.com/dogs/xylitol-toxicity-in-dogs](http://www.vetstreet.com/dogs/xylitol-toxicity-in-dogs)



**VALENTINE'S DAY IS FOR PETS TOO!**

- Pet owners spend \$815 million yearly on their pets.
- One in 5 Americans plan to give pets Valentine's gifts
- 62% of small dogs, 41% of medium-sized dogs and 32% of large dogs sleep with their owners.
- 75% of cats sleep with their owners.
- Two-thirds of Americans kiss their pets.
- Half of pet owners consider their pets "children".
- 19% of pet owners buy their pets clothing.
- 50% of dog owners and 40% of cat owners admit to giving their pet human food on occasion.
- One quarter of owners celebrate their pet's birthday.
- 30% of holiday cards include a pet's name or photo.

### APPLE MINT HOLIDAY BONES

- \* 1 1/2 cups [whole wheat flour](#)
- \* 1 cup [unbleached all purpose flour](#)
- \* 1/2 cup [old fashioned rolled oats](#)
- \* 1/3 cup [oat bran](#)
- \* 2 tablespoons [dry milk](#)
- \* 1 1/2 teaspoons [dry baking yeast](#)
- \* 2 tablespoons [chopped mint leaves](#)
- \* 1/2 cup [applesauce](#)
- \* green or red [powdered food coloring](#) or [spinach powder](#) (for color)
- \* 7/8 cup water

- 1- Mix all ingredients together to make dough
- 2- Roll out dough to 1/4" thick
- 3- Cut into dog bone shapes
- 4- Bake at 250 for 1 hour



**Purrrr-fect** staff member: **MARY**

Meet our office cat (ahem, *Diva*), Mary! She came to us after her owner passed and there was no one to care for her. We originally planned to place her in a new home, but she took over the office so nicely and is such a valuable "helper" with paperwork, phone calls, and working at the computer, that we decided this is her forever home. We are honored that she is gracious enough to allow us to share her space and her glorious presence!

