

# Winter Holiday Safety

## PVMA FACT SHEET

### 7 things you can do to make the holidays safer for your pet

- Keep people food out of the reach of your pet and ask your guests to do the same
- Make sure your pet doesn't have any access to treats, especially those containing chocolate, xylitol, grapes/raisins, onions or other toxic foods
- Don't leave your pet alone in the room with lit candles, a decorated tree or potpourri
- Keep holiday plants (especially holly, mistletoe and lillies) out of reach of pets
- Consider leaving the tinsel off your tree if you have a cat
- Secure your Christmas tree to keep it from falling over if your dog bumps it or your cat climbs it; hanging lemon-scented car air fresheners in the tree may deter your cat from climbing it
- If your pet is excitable or scared when you have company, consider putting your pet in another room with some of his/her toys, a comfortable bed, etc. or providing a safe place for your pet to escape the excitement (such as a kennel, crate, perching place, scratching post shelf or hiding place)



Information provided courtesy of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)