

# Article

# Writing Sample

Winter Pet Safety Tips



Dina Giolitto | [dinagio@dinagio.com](mailto:dinagio@dinagio.com)

# Top 5 Winter Pet Safety Tips Pet Parents Should Know

Winter weather is in the forecast, brrr! Time to stock up, cozy up... and if you're a pet owner, brush up on the basics of winter pet safety.

When the air feels frosty, your dog gets frisky... how fun! Outdoor play in short spurts will invigorate you both, and break up the monotony of the cold-weather season. Keep pet safety in mind before you walk outside in wintry weather, or hunker down this holiday.

Winter poses its own set of hazards for pets. The good news: it's all preventable if you're prepared.

While your dog might be up for an endless game of snowball fetch, you wouldn't want him to turn into a pup-sicle and face a frostbite emergency. And if your kitty chomps a Christmas ornament, you'll need to react with cat-like reflexes: call your pet ER, fast.

Whether your four-legged friend is a dog, cat, ferret, parrot, or some other awesome animal... the cold months of the year pose risks all around. Prevention is always the best means of protecting your pet-pals.

Below, find simple, sensible precautions to take that will ensure pet safety this winter. Take time to read through them all, and call your vet if you have any questions or concerns.

Is your pet experiencing an emergency? Are you unsure if emergency care is needed? Reach out to [youremergencyvet](#) for help and guidance.

# Top 5 Winter Pet Safety Tips Pet Parents Should Know

## Winter Pet Safety: Top 5 Hazards and How to Handle Them

Are you prepared to protect your pet during the cold-weather season? Below, find 5 winter pet safety tips all pet owners should know about.

### FROSTBITE

#### Frostbite in Pets: Learn the Signs

If your pet spends a lot of time outdoors during the colder months, you should know how to recognize frostbite before it gets out of hand. Signs include the skin turning gray, blue, or very pale, as well as noticeable coldness to the touch.

Your pet may show signs she's in pain from the frostbite, and there may be visible blisters in more severe cases. In extreme cases, the skin may turn black and may be dying off.

#### Frostbite in Animals: Precautions and Protocol

When you bring your pet in from outdoors, wipe down her paws to remove any ice or snow. Then, check the paw pads and any other exposed skin on her body thoroughly for signs of frostbite.

Take your pet to the emergency vet if you suspect frostbite so you can prevent the loss of skin tissue.

### HOLIDAY FOOD HAZARDS

#### Keep Your Pets Away from Holiday Food

During the cold-weather season, families gather to celebrate with a big meal that pets often can't resist. Is your dog hanging around the holiday ham? Don't be tempted to serve him a slice, no matter how fetching he looks in his Santa suit.

# Top 5 Winter Pet Safety Tips Pet Parents Should Know

Human foods can cause digestive upset with unpleasant side effects at the very least; and could possibly even be toxic to dogs, cats or other pets.

Do you really wish for your little pal to be a part of the festivities? Consider buying a pre-made pet food blend designed to mimic holiday foods. Or, prepare something special that's pet-safe. For a delicious doggy dinner, cook up some unseasoned protein with plain veggies like carrots and peas.

Just be sure to research how to make homemade pet food, based on the type of pet you have. An example, Fifi the French bulldog would think turkey is a tasty treat... but for Louie the Lizard, leave it at lettuce.

## **HOLIDAY DECOR**

### **Be Mindful of Your Pet Around Holiday Decorations**

Holiday decorations look an awful lot like pet toys, don't they? Can't really blame your dog, cat or even your ferret if he tries to steal a stocking or munch some mistletoe. As your pet romps about the house, track his travels and keep him clear of the Christmas clutter, to make sure he remains safe.

If your pet ingests all or part of a holiday decoration, it can be extremely dangerous and even potentially fatal. Do you suspect your pet might have swallowed an item like this? Don't wait—take her to the emergency vet right away.

## **ICE AND SNOW**

### **Do Not Force Your Pet to Walk on Ice or Snow Other Than for Quick Potty Breaks**

Pet potty breaks should be kept as quick as possible when it's below freezing outside and there's a lot of snow on the ground. If possible, especially for small dogs who have trouble getting around the big snow drifts, shovel out an area of your yard for your dog to do her business.

# Top 5 Winter Pet Safety Tips Pet Parents Should Know

High-energy dogs may really be keen on a good romp and run in the snow. Pet booties will protect your dog's delicate paw pads while he expends pent-up energy. Just be sure to keep playtime short, even with booties. Frostbite sets in quickly and can create a pet emergency that will require you to take your dog to the vet for treatment.

## **POWER OUTAGES**

### **Keep Backup Blankets Handy in Case the Power Goes Out**

If the power goes out, you and your pets will need a way to stay warm. Keep backup blankets, including special ones for your pet, so she can snuggle up in a comfortable, warm place in your home while waiting for the power to come back on again.

If you live in a very cold climate, try to have a backup heat source. This is for your pet's safety as well as for your own. In the absence of alternate heating, pile on the blankets and keep the chill away with lots of cuddling.

### **Contact Us for Additional Winter Pet Safety Tips**

When the weather turns cold, pet safety becomes a priority right along with protecting your family. Keep a watchful eye on your pet and be there to meet his needs throughout the winter and beyond.

A general precaution for every pet owner: Place your emergency pet's contact info someplace conspicuous, like taped to the refrigerator, and also in your list of contacts. This way, if anything does go wrong, you can act quickly and get the help and guidance you need.

For additional winter pet safety tips, or if you have a question regarding your pet's health, contact our team at VEG. We have locations all over the country, open 24/7 including on weekends and holidays.

We care about your pet's health as much as you do, so don't wait. Call and speak to our experienced and caring emergency veterinarians now.

# Need to Outsource Web Article Writing?



**Dina Giolitto, Copywriter**

Use the power of content to grow your profits... with the help of long-time copywriter, content strategist and web marketing expert, Dina Giolitto.

**DinaGio.com**

Email: [dinagio@dinagio.com](mailto:dinagio@dinagio.com)