



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Pet Insurance Provider Pets Best Insurance Offers Simple Steps to Keep Pets Healthy Over the Holidays.**



Top-rated pet insurance provider, Pets Best Insurance, offers simple steps to keep pets healthy during the holidays and highlights how pet health insurance can help when the unexpected happens.

Boise, ID December 12, 2011-The holidays are upon us, our houses filled with all the delights of the season. But many of our favorite traditional holiday decorations and foods mask a host of problems for our furry friends. Following these tips from Pets Best Insurance can keep your pets healthy, and investing in pet health insurance can offset costly emergency trips to the vet.

"Our pets are members of our families and we will do anything to keep them safe and healthy," says Chris Middleton, VP of Marketing for Pets Best Insurance. "The best way to do that is to rid our houses of potential threats and have pet health insurance as a backup for when the unexpected happens."

Christmas trees should be tethered either to the wall or to the ceiling to prevent toppling over on a pet. Pull the skirt tightly around the trunk to keep pets from drinking the stagnant tree water, which can contain bacteria and possibly fertilizer, both of which can harm pets. Artificial snow and flocking can be poisonous. Shiny tinsel and ribbon are like magnets to a cat, and if ingested, can tangle in the animal's digestive tract causing an obstruction and possible surgery.

Contrary to popular belief, poinsettias are not poisonous, but other holiday plants and flowers are. Holly can cause nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Mistletoe can cause gastrointestinal upset and cardiovascular problems. Many varieties of lilies can cause kidney failure in cats. If any leaves and berries drop to the floor, be sure to clean them up before your pets find them.

Chocolate is toxic to pets, and the darker the chocolate the more dangerous. It can cause a variety of problems from vomiting to seizures and even death. Xylitol is a synthetic sugar substitute found in many candies and chewing gum and can be highly toxic to animals. Ingestion of Xylitol can cause liver damage and death, explained the pet insurance company's Director of Compliance, Jared Hight.



"Xylitol is very poisonous to dogs," says Hight. "We recently had a case where Bella, a Boxer in California, ate a whole pack of gum." The vet bill was \$2,794.03. Luckily, Bella's owners had taken out pet insurance through Pets Best Insurance and the company reimbursed \$2,126.42, after a \$100 deductible."

Fatty holiday table scraps are unhealthy for our pets, but what they might find on their own if garbage isn't sealed properly can harm them even more. Another recent claim Pets Best Insurance handled was that of Charlie the Sheepdog. Charlie ate an entire corncob and needed swift medical attention. Pets Best Insurance helped the owners by paying \$2,500 of the vet bill after their deductible. .



Emergencies come up even when owners are vigilant about pet safety. Seemingly simple problems can balloon into big expenses. No one expects a quick rummage in the garbage to turn into an expensive vet bill, but it can happen. Pet owners should do all they can to keep their pets safe in and around the home this holiday season, and investing in pet health insurance is an excellent safeguard for when emergencies arise.

#### **About Pets Best Insurance**

Boise, Idaho-based Pets Best Insurance provides pet insurance plans that reimburse pet owners for a straightforward 80 percent of veterinary services after a deductible, with no benefit schedules or fee restrictions. Pets Best Insurance plans do not include age restrictions and allow the pet owner to choose any licensed veterinarian. Any pet has guaranteed acceptance for accident-only policies, ensuring that even seriously ill pets can be insured against unexpected costs from accidental injury. The Pets Best Insurance team is a group of pet lovers who strive to deliver quality customer service and value. Aetna Insurance Company of Connecticut (AICC) underwrites insurance plans offered and administered by Pets Best Insurance. This material describes Pets Best Insurance plans in general terms. Eligible expenses and coverage may vary, depending on your plan selection. All pet insurance plans have limitations and exclusions. Information is believed to be accurate as of the production date; however, it is subject to change. For more information, visit Pets Best Insurance at [Petsbest.com](http://Petsbest.com) or phone 877-PetsBest (738-7237). You may also follow them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/petsbestinsurance.com](http://www.facebook.com/petsbestinsurance.com).

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