

## Home Pet Safety Kit BE PREPARED!!!

Your animal may become poisoned in spite of your best efforts to prevent it.

Because of this, you should be prepared.

Your animal companions regularly should be seen by a local veterinarian to maintain overall health. You should know the veterinarian's procedures for emergency situations, especially ones that occur after usual business hours. You should keep the telephone numbers for the veterinarian, ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center, and a local emergency veterinary service in a convenient location.

You may benefit by keeping a pet safety kit on hand for emergencies. Such a kit should contain:

- ✓ A fresh bottle of hydrogen peroxide 3% (USP)
- ✓ Can of soft dog or cat food, as appropriate
- ✓ Turkey baster, bulb syringe or large medicine syringe
- ✓ Saline eye solution to flush out eye contaminants
- ✓ Artificial tear gel to lubricate eyes after flushing
- ✓ Mild grease-cutting dishwashing liquid (for bathing)
- ✓ Rubber gloves (for use during bathing)
- ✓ Forceps or tweezers to remove stingers or ticks
- ✓ Muzzle (or length of gauze to tie around snout) to keep the animal from hurting you while it is excited or in pain
- ✓ Pet carrier to help carry the animal to your local veterinarian

You should not attempt any therapy on your pet without contacting either the Center or your local veterinarian.

If you suspect that your pet has been exposed to a poison, it is important not to panic. While rapid response is important, panicking generally interferes with the process of helping your animal.

If your animal is seizing, losing consciousness, unconscious or having difficulty breathing, you should contact your veterinarian immediately. Most veterinarians are familiar with the consulting services of the Center. Depending on your particular situation, your local veterinarian may want to contact the Center personally while you bring your pet to the animal hospital.

## **ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center**

The ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center, an operating division of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) is a unique, emergency hotline providing 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week telephone assistance to veterinarians and pet owners. The Center's hotline veterinarians can quickly answer questions about toxic substances found in our everyday surroundings that can be dangerous to animals. The Center maintains a wide collection of reference materials and computer databases that help provide toxicological information for various species. Veterinary professionals provide around-the-clock, on-site coverage of the Center. The licensed staff members share over one hundred and ten years of combined call center experience and over seventy-five years of combined toxicology, clinical, and diagnostic experience. The Center also works in partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to help educate pet owners to "READ the LABEL FIRST!" The phone number of the Center is 1-888-4-ANI-HELP (1-888-426-4435) and the website is www.aspca.org/apcc.