

Use these tips to protect pets from summer outdoor hazards

The arrival of warmer weather means more time outside for you and your pets. But even in your own backyard, the Oregon Veterinary Medical Association reminds you that there are some potential hazards that could get in the way of the fun. Use these tips to keep your pets safe from outdoor haz-

ards:

Fertilizers & Herbicides;
• Before applying a chemical to your lawn or in your yard, consider whether natural, organic or chemical-free remedies such as those described by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (healthy-lawns.org) might be just as ef-

fective.

• Store all fertilizers and herbicides in their original packaging and away from pets. Be sure to read labels before application; overapplication can lead to excess residue.
• Do not let your pets in the yard while applying chemicals. Cover or remove outdoor food

bowls, water dishes, pet toys and bird baths before any applications of chemicals. Wait until chemicals have dried and even up to four days after application before allowing a pet into the area. Pets who lick their paws after walking on treated areas can be poisoned.

Insecticides & Pesticides;
• These products tend to be more toxic to pets than fertilizers and herbicides, so be even more cautious with them. Store all insecticides and pesticides in their original packaging and away from pets. The National Pesticide Information Center (npic.orst.edu, 800-858-7378) can help you make informed decisions about pesticide use.

• The most dangerous forms of pesticides include slug and snail bait (containing metaldehyde), fly bait (containing methomyl), systemic insecticides (containing disyston or disulfoton), mole or gopher bait (containing zinc phosphide), and most rat poisons.

• Dogs can be attracted to slug bait that contains metaldehyde. Signs of poisoning include tremors, seizures, shaking, vomiting, hyper-salivation, rapid heart rate, and abdominal pain.

If your pet ingests slug bait, contact your veterinarian or emergency clinic immediately.

• Some of the many natural or "green" alternatives to insecticides and pesticides include:

• **Diatomaceous earth:** Made from fossilized remains of one-celled algae, it scratches and absorbs the wax layer on a bug's surface, leaving it to die from dehydration.

• **Fermenting liquid:** To attract slugs, set out shallow containers of yeast, water and spoiled yogurt or beer, and bury the container flush with the soil surface.

Flea & Tick Control Products;

• A common cause of pet poisoning in the summer months is improper use or application of flea and tick control products. Use these products only according to package instructions.

• Never use flea medications intended for a dog on a cat. Use only flea and tick products specifically designed for cats and in the proper dosage.

• Never apply 45-65 percent permethrin "spot-on" products to cats, even in small amounts.

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From the organizing committee of the 2008



Oregon Trail Rally

Thank you Vernonia!

**The Oregon Trail Rally committee,
volunteers, and entrants
appreciate the support your
community has shown us.**

**This year's event was superb,
and because of you, we are in
the running for Rally of the Year!**

Special thanks go to:

The Vernonia Chamber of Commerce: Donna Webb for your coordination and contacting of local businesses and support.

The Cedar Side Inn: Saturday evening Rally Party

The Vernonia Rural Fire: Dean Smith for organizing the Sunday Morning Breakfast to benefit the Fire Districts needs.

Vernonia Cares Food Bank: Food Booth at the school grounds to benefit the food bank.

The Vernonia School District: for graciously hosting our service area.

Providence Medical Center, Vernonia School Bus Service, Cowlitz Clean Sweep, First Watch Security and Waste Management for various donations and accommodations

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CHS seeks new board members

Columbia Humane Society (CHS) is pleased to announce board openings for 2009. They are looking for people with not only an interest and passion for their cause, but for people with professional backgrounds who are up to the challenge of dedicating time and effort into improving and expanding the organization. Previous experience with board governance is preferred but not necessary.

This is a "working board" with no full time executive director. Terms are 3 years. General meetings are held once per month, with an additional recommended monthly committee meeting. Current committees are Board Development, Budget/Finance, Shelter

Operations and Fundraising. Committees include a chairperson, and the majority of members are board members. All are advisory to the board unless specific authority has been delegated. Committees to which specific authority is delegated may not have non-board member members. The current areas of focus are Governance, Major Donor Development, Setting Strategic Vision and, of course, Fundraising.

Interested parties may email or phone: Bo Henderson, Columbia Humane Society Board Chair at chs.prez@hotmail.com or by calling days 503-709-6022, or evenings 503-543-7990.

Contact information for CCCC

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Links tab to reach the CCCC section. Applications must be postmarked by July 31, 2008, for projects that will be completed between September

2008 and August 2009.

Please direct any questions regarding the plan or the grant process to Janet Wright at 503-397-1035 or email to wrightj@co.columbia.or.us.