

Outdoor hazards and your pets won't mix well this Spring

From Page 5

made from fossilized remains of one-celled algae. It feels like talcum powder, but scratches and absorbs the wax layer on a bug's surface, leaving it to die from dehydration.

Fermenting Liquid: Set out shallow containers of yeast, water and spoiled yogurt or beer, and bury the container flush with the soil surface.

Slugs love the scent of yeast.

Cocoa Mulch & Dogs – According to the ASPCA Poison Control Center, “Dogs who consume enough cocoa bean shell mulch could potentially develop signs similar to that of chocolate poisoning, including vomiting and diarrhea. In cases where very large amounts of mulch have been consumed, muscle tremors or other more serious neurological signs could occur.”

The key is to watch what your pet ingests, especially if they have a tendency to ingest organic matter. If you suspect that your pet has ingested any

toxic or potentially toxic substance, call your veterinarian.

Flea and Tick Control Products – A common cause of pet poisoning in the spring and summer months is improper use or application of flea and tick control products. Use such products responsibly and according to package instructions. Overuse and misuse can be deadly.

Never apply 45-65% permethrin “spot-on” products to cats, even in small amounts. Highly concentrated permethrin can be extremely toxic to cats.

If you have both dogs and cats in your household, you should be aware that using a permethrin “spot-on” product on a dog may cause illness or death in a household cat.

Never use flea medications intended for a dog on a cat instead. It is important to use only flea and tick products specifically designed for cats, and to administer the proper dosage.

All flea and tick “spot-on” products – even those with

nearly identical brand names – are not alike. Check the label to identify the active ingredient before you apply it.

Poisonous Plants – Ingestion of even small amounts of certain plants can be harmful or fatal to a pet. Highly toxic plants include: lilies (to cats), azalea, rhododendron, yew, foxglove, oleander, kalanchoe, and sago palm. Symptoms of plant poisoning include: Irritation to skin and/or mouth, diarrhea, seizures, lethargy, unconsciousness, and vomiting.

Poison Control & Emergency Veterinary Care – It's always a good idea to have on hand the phone numbers for your veterinarian, a local emergency animal hospital, and poison control. If you suspect that your pet has accidentally ingested a potentially hazardous product, such as those noted above, call the ASPCA's Poison Control Hotline (1-888-426-4435, fee) or the Pet Poison Helpline (1-800-213-6680, fee) or your veterinarian immediately.

ly. The sooner treatment is started, the better for your pet.

The Oregon Veterinary Medical Association is a nonprofit

organization of veterinarians who are dedicated to helping people give their animals a high quality of life.

Cowlitz Coin Club Show on April 25

The 42nd annual Cowlitz Coin Club's Coin Show will be held April 25, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the AWPPW Hall, 724 15th Ave., Longview.

There will be coins, paper

money, tokens and related items. Admission is free, and there are door prizes, and a \$25 gold piece will be one of the raffle prizes available.

Letters

From page 3

You can help reduce sexual assaults

To the Editor:

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). This year, Columbia County Women's Resource Center is marking SAAM by rolling out a new awareness campaign, which is also the theme for SAAM: Prevent sexual violence...on our campuses.

This campaign asks for us all to get involved in ending sexual violence in our community as well as our schools. While sexual assault impacts individuals, its root causes are interwoven throughout our culture, and therefore to eradicate violence we must all evaluate the prevailing language, attitudes, and cultural beliefs about sex, sexuality, and gender.

Sexual violence takes many form, including rape, incest, child sexual abuse, stalking, sexual harassment, and sexual assault. These crimes are not committed in dark alleys by strangers so much as they are committed in our schools, our workplaces, our streets and our homes by people we know. The victims are not impersonal stereotypes. They are sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, friends, and possibly even you and me.

Statistics show us that one in six women (17%) and one in thirty-three men (3%) reported experiencing an attempted or completed rape at some time in their lives. About 2 out of 1000 children in the United States were confirmed by child protective service agencies as having experienced sexual assault in 2003. Available data greatly

underestimate the true magnitude of the problem. Rape is one of the most underreported crimes. In 2002, only 39% of rapes and sexual assaults were reported to law enforcement officials. In fact, 93% of sexual assault survivors are violated by someone they know and trust, oftentimes before the age of 15. Among high school students surveyed nationwide, about 8% reported having been forced to have sex. Females (11%) were more likely to report having been forced to have sex than males (4%). These numbers underestimate the problem. Many cases are not reported because victims are afraid to tell the police, friends, or family about the abuse (CDC, 2010).

Talk to your children now. Talk to your friends now. Talk to your grandparents now. Make sure you address any inappropriate behaviors that you see now. The simple act of speaking up may seem frightening, but it changes the world in ways that you can't imagine. During Sexual Assault Awareness Month, show your support by wearing a teal-colored ribbon. Wear your ribbon proudly to let others know that you do not accept sexual violence in your community.

The climate that we collectively create around us every day can continue to be one of rape culture – where misogyny, racism, homophobia, and sexist attitudes persist; or it can be transformed into one which supports equality, safety, communication, and embodies a world without violence. It's up to all of us to rise to the challenge every day to bring this new world into being.

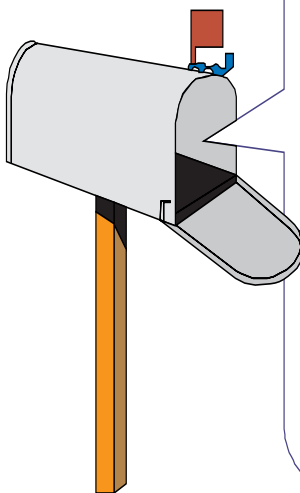
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WEATHER REPORT

MARCH 2010

DATE	TEMPERATURE		PRECIP. AMT.
	HI	LO	
1	58	35	--
2	55	40	.02
3	54	32	.03
4	52	32	T
5	57	32	--
6	63	29	--
7	53	31	T
8	47	32	.30
9	43	32	.22
10	49	31	T
11	47	40	1.38
12	48	36	.51
13	47	33	.02
14	51	29	T
15	63	39	--
16	55	34	.02
17	52	32	--
18	57	31	--
19	64	25	--
20	68	27	.01
21	55	42	.15
22	52	32	T
23	59	31	--
24	67	31	.36
25	41	37	.94
26	54	36	T
27	63	33	.23
28	53	43	.82
29	47	37	.63
30	42	34	.28
31	49	31	--

Temperature and precipitation amounts are from the official U.S. weather station at the Vernonia water plant. Measurable precipitation in March totalled 5.92 inches.



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