



A Holiday Survival Guide for You and Your Pet

Some people will spend Christmas (or New Year's Eve) at home with their pets, friends and family. Others will spend time at someone else's house and come home in time to kiss their pets 'goodnight.'

When you're the host and a pet owner:

- Remind guests ahead of time that you have a pet in case they have any allergies or phobias.
- Let your pet approach guests on their own terms. Ask your guests to ignore your animals initially and let your pet approach them when they are ready.
- Create safe spaces for your pets by keeping crate doors open or by giving them access to a people-free room. You may also decide to limit your pets' access to people during mealtime to avoid begging or food-stealing.

"Sometimes, it is better to spend Christmas home with the dog than out with the merrymakers."

~ Unknown



When you're the guest and plan to bring your pet along:

- Make sure the host is comfortable with you bringing your pet along. Ask first; best not to assume.
- Bring your pet's bed, toys, medication and food with you. (Consider bringing a Kong and/or puzzle toys to keep your dog entertained).
- Find out the house rules: Is your pet allowed on the furniture? Are the kids allowed to hold the dog's leash under your supervision?

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Think **Twice** Before Giving Pets as Christmas Gifts

During the holiday season, we want to give our loved ones the perfect gift, so when you see an adorable puppy, kitten, or bunny before Christmas, this may seem like the answer.



It's a nice thought, but in reality, giving an animal as a surprise gift is sometimes not the best idea. Here are some things to consider:

- A pet is a 10-20 year commitment.
- Pets are a huge financial responsibility, especially during the first year.
- Training a new pet during the cold winter months can be challenging.
- The holidays are already a busy and stressful time.
- After the novelty wears off, many pets find themselves ignored, neglected or surrendered to shelters.
- If your family has made the informed decision to get a new pet, please consider adopting from a shelter!

- Feed your pet separately from the host's pets to avoid food-guarding issues.
- Ask before making any modifications to the host's home. For example, you may want to place poinsettias out of reach since they can make cats and dogs ill. (Ask nicely but persuasively by expressing the importance of your request).
- If possible, keep your pet in the same room with you at nighttime to prevent mischievous antics, such as opening Christmas presents, tree climbing or knocking down breakables.

For either scenario:

- Make sure your pet's identification and vaccinations are up-to-date.
- Train your dog not to dart out open doors. If you have a cat or have a dog that insists on making a break for it, keep them crated or behind a closed door while guests are arriving and leaving.
- Unless your pet is known to be well-behaved around Christmas trees, supervise him when he's in the room with the tree. Dogs may urinate on the Christmas tree, knock off breakable ornaments or knock the whole tree over. Cats may be tempted to climb the tree and chew on wires and ornaments.
- Ask friends and family to make sure the front door is always closed behind them, to not leave medications or harmful items on the floor, and to not feed your pet without permission.

Take time out to recharge: if you're starting to feel drained by being around other people, take a walk with your dog to marvel at Christmas lights, retire early to your bedroom for a quiet night with your pet, or suggest watching a movie with friends and family for an opportunity to relax with your furry companion.

On behalf of everyone at London Humane Society, we wish you a safe and joyous holiday season!

Indoor Recess: Playing Inside with Your Dog During Cold Weather



If you've owned a dog during a Canadian winter, you know that sometimes it's just too cold for a walk. Here are some alternatives for expending your dog's energy creatively and resourcefully:

Nose-work games. Stimulate your dog's mind and encourage him to use his natural skills while finding hidden food. For example, place sliced carrots around the room while your dog is watching. Give him a cue to "find the treats" and then praise him every time he finds one. Advanced level: have dog stay in another room while you hide treats; hide treats under objects for dog to sniff out (e.g. under the edge of an area rug).

Puzzles. Pour your dog's meal into a food puzzle to stimulate his mind and engage his foraging instincts. Also, search "muffin tin and tennis ball puzzle" to create a DIY puzzle that encourages your dog to sniff out treats. Pinterest is a great source for DIY puzzles.

Obstacle course. Design an indoor obstacle course that will have your dog weaving around chairs, stopping to rollover, jumping over a homemade hurdle (e.g. a broom placed across two chairs)—the options are endless!

Stairs. Have your dog run up and down stairs to engage different muscles than the ones he uses during a walk or run. Stand at the top of the stairs and throw a toy down to your dog. When your dog grabs the toy, call his name and have him bring the toy to you. Do several rounds until he is tired out.

Give the Gift of Love this Holiday Season



Skip the mall this holiday season and help restore hope to local animals in need by making a donation to London Humane Society in honour of someone special. We will acknowledge your charitable gift to the recipient by sending a seasonal card advising them of your thoughtful contribution.

To have a card sent, just call, fax, e-mail or drop by the shelter by December 18th, 2017. All of our contact information is listed on the back page of this document.

New: Special e-Cards can now be personalized and sent to recipients when making donations on our website.

HappyTails

Bark in the Park Festival

SAVE THE DATE!



Heather's teenage daughter, Melissa, suffered the loss of her best friend earlier this year. Heather wondered if getting a pet for Melissa would help her through this profoundly challenging time. Heather and Melissa went to London Humane Society, and they met a spunky tabby kitten named Travis.

They brought Travis home last May and changed his name to Levi. He's been great company for Melissa. "He's her treasure!"

Mark your calendars for a day of fun with your pet – the London Humane Society's 34th annual Bark in the Park Festival will be held on Sunday, June 10th, 2018 at the Plunkett Estate! Please watch for information on our website and social media pages in the new year about this fabulous event and consider collecting pledges to support the needy animals in our community.



THANK YOU TO OUR NEWEST KENNEL SPONSORS: | ABATE London #9 | Bob and Linda Biddle – in Memory of Cathy | Christa Vilos – in Memory of Timbit | David Dresser | Gabriella Prifti | Julie Guard – for Sadie, beloved companion of Christopher Guard and Sarah Langford | Ren's Pets Depot | Wendy Durnin – in Memory of Molly

Christmas Pet Gifts

It's that time again! We've been busy preparing for this year's Christmas Pet Gifts campaign and hope that you'll be looking for us at one of many venues across the city. Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for more dates to be announced.



Lucan Christmas Craft Show.....	Nov. 3 – 5
London City Centre	Nov. 9 – 10
White Oaks Mall.....	Nov. 15 – 19
Real Canadian Superstore – West.....	Nov. 17 – 19
Real Canadian Superstore – East.....	Nov. 17 – 19
Canadian Tire – Hyde Park.....	Nov. 18
Citi Plaza.....	Nov. 23 – 24
Westmount Mall.....	Nov. 24 – 26
Real Canadian Superstore – West.....	Nov. 24 – 26
Real Canadian Superstore – East.....	Nov. 24 – 26
Ren's Pets Depot	Nov. 25 – 26
ValuMart – Wortley Village.....	Nov. 25 – 26
One London Place.....	Nov. 30 – Dec. 1
Western Fair Christmas Craft Show	Nov. 30 – Dec. 3
University Hospital – Cafeteria	Dec. 4
Talbot Place.....	Dec. 6– 7
London Life	Dec. 7 – 8
London City Centre	Dec. 7 – 8
Covent Garden Market.....	Dec. 9 – 10
Canadian Tire – Dundas Street East	Dec. 15 – 17
Westmount Mall.....	Dec. 15 – 17
Ren's Pets Depot	Dec. 16 – 17

HappyTails



“ANGEL is doing so well in her forever home! She runs and plays and gets (sometimes) way too much love! Her owners say, “[We] couldn’t be happier! We have the best girl in the world!”



1. PetSmart Charities National Adoption Weekend was held from September 15th-17th, 2017. London Humane Society volunteers were on-site at PetSmart Masonville all weekend long and successfully adopted over a dozen cats, kittens, guinea pigs, hamsters and rabbits.

2. London Humane Society Volunteers were on-site at Pet Valu Westwood – London from October 13th-15th for National Adoption Weekend! Special thanks to this Pet Valu location for including us in their 6th Annual Thanks for Giving event throughout the month of October by matching donations of non-clumping kitty litter to up 100 bags!



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Our Pre-Authorized Withdrawal Plan is a convenient and generous way to help our animals. According to your direction, a gift will be processed from your credit card or from your bank account on either the first or fifteenth business day of the month.

This is a safe, secure and automatic way of helping our animals all year!

MY GIFT TO THE ANIMALS

Yes! I want to help the London Humane Society provide shelter and care to unwanted animals, and to protect them from neglect and abuse.

Please find my donation enclosed: \$25 \$50 \$100 \$150 \$200 Other \$ _____

OR I would prefer to take the extra step of donating to to the London Humane Society’s monthly giving campaign so that I can help homeless and abused animals all year long.

I would like to donate \$ _____ monthly on the 1st or 15th of each month.
 (Please enclose a void cheque or authorization to charge monthly to your credit card)

Payment enclosed: Cheque payable to the London Humane Society Visa MasterCard

Credit Card number _____ Exp. _____ Signature _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ Postal Code _____ Phone _____

I would like more information about planned or estate giving.

You may cancel your monthly giving arrangement at any time by contacting the London Humane Society. A receipt for income tax purposes will be issued at the end of the calendar year for all monthly donations made.

Please mail this form to the London Humane Society, 624 Clarke Road, London, Ontario, N5V 3K5
Donate online at www.londonhumane.ca

THANK YOU! The London Humane Society is a not-for-profit charitable organization that is dependent on donations from the community for financial support.

