

Blue Ravine News

YOUR PET'S HEALTH IS OUR CONCERN

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Santa's Back!

Even though we cannot all meet for another fun Holiday Open House this year, Santa Claus has jollily agreed to visit us on Saturday, December 4th to take Christmas photos with all of you—FREE.



Reservations are required so that we can accommodate everyone and their pets safely so we urge you to call ahead of time to schedule a time slot for Saturday, December 4th between 9:30 and 3:30 p.m. Availability is limited.

Santa will hand out goody bags to all those who come to visit with him! Not to be outdone, Dr. Jennifer Sweet is delighted to hand out her special Christmas Cookie Recipe booklet to all clients who come for Santa photos as well as to those clients who visit the clinic in December. This includes her mother's most requested recipes for Open House cookies.

Don't miss a chance to see Santa, exchange some Holiday wishes with the staff, and receive your recipe booklet to share with your family. Imagine those Christmas cookie smells coming from your oven! It's a holiday tradition!

We hope to see you and your pet on December 4th.



— the Staff at Blue Ravine
Animal Hospital

Welcome Back to the Blue Ravine Lobby!

Dear Clients — We are happy to welcome you back inside the hospital lobby for your veterinary services and appointments but please help us maintain a safe environment by following the recommendations below.



- If you arrive to pick up a prescription or drop off a sample, come right in. Please respect others' needs for distance and the necessity of a mask while in our facility. Please understand that wait times have increased and we are all working very hard to provide you good service.
- If you have a scheduled appointment, please come right in and let us know you are here. Only one masked family member may be present during an exam. Please respect others' needs for distance and the necessity for a mask. You may also wait in your car if you prefer, just let us know and we will be happy to accommodate you. Please be patient because wait times have increased, but don't be shy; check in with the front desk if it feels too long.
- If you do not have a scheduled appointment, drop off or pick up, please call or email your needs so we can better prepare for your visit. The staff may need time to process your request before you arrive.
- Please be kind to our staff, respect our rules and appreciate that we are trying our best in this new normal.

Please review our **Blue Ravine Animal Hospital Code of Conduct**.

Blue Ravine Animal Hospital Code of Conduct:

Blue Ravine Animal Hospital seeks to continually provide a welcoming and safe environment which ensures trust and respect for all people and pets.

We have the following expectations for our clients:

- 1. No profanity, verbal abuse, or disrespect directed at our staff or other clients is acceptable.**
- 2. No form of harassment or discrimination will be allowed.**
- 3. Clients must comply with requests from our staff regarding the safety of people and animals in our hospital.**

Failure to comply with these expectations may result in Blue Ravine Animal Hospital taking corrective action up to and including termination of our services provided to you. If you have concerns about this policy, please politely address our practice manager at kschwartz@blueravineanimalhospital.com.



We thank you in advance for your cooperation and support and hope to continue providing a positive environment for everyone. We value your loyalty, kindness and respect.

Holiday Hazards and Safety Tips

Winter holidays are a wonderful time to enjoy being with family and friends. But with all the extra hustle and bustle, you may forget to abide by the same pet-proofing measures you follow the rest of the year. Here are some holiday pet safety hazards that you should be aware of to help keep your pet safe and happy through this holiday season.

Chocolate: As tasty as chocolate can be for us, it can be plenty dangerous for our pets. Worse yet, there are many seemingly innocuous forms of chocolate that pets can get into during the holidays—chocolate coins, baking chocolate morsels, and even chocolate-covered espresso beans and macadamia nuts can dispense an unhealthy dose of methylxanthines to pets.

Cats can also be adversely affected if they ingest chocolate but most cats have no interest in it. Over 90 percent of chocolate toxicity calls to the Pet Poison Helpline are for dogs.

Grapes and Raisins: These are also common pet safety hazards for pets during the holidays. Any candied raisins found in fruit cake, yogurt-covered raisins or grapes found on appetizer platters could spell bad news for your pet. Visiting family and friends are sometimes unaware that grapes and raisins are poisonous to dogs and cats.

Medicines: Visiting holiday guests may leave open suitcases on the floor, where pets can easily get into them. Suddenly a pet may have access to 20 different medications. Something as innocuous as Tylenol can be equally dangerous to pets. If you think your pet ingested any medications or supplements,

call your veterinarian or the ASPCA Poison Control (888) 426-4435 right away.

Talkin' Turkey: If you decide to feed your pet a little nibble of turkey, make sure it's boneless and well-cooked. Don't offer a pet raw or undercooked turkey, which may contain salmonella bacteria.

Sage Advice: Sage can make your stuffing taste delish, but it and many other herbs contain essential oils and resins that can cause gastrointestinal upset and central nervous system depression if eaten in large quantities. Cats are especially sensitive to the effects of certain essential oils.

Raw Bread Dough: Don't spoil your pet's holiday by giving him raw bread dough. According to ASPCA experts, an animal's body heat may cause raw dough to rise in the stomach. As it expands, the pet may experience vomiting, severe abdominal pain and bloating, which could become a life-threatening emergency.



Tinsel: Cats are fascinated with shiny objects. Anyone who has a cat may be better off forgoing using tinsel on trees, wreaths or garlands. Tinsel is thin and sharp and can easily wrap itself around the intestines or ball up in the stomach once ingested.



Don't Let Them Eat Cake:

If you're baking cakes that call for raw eggs, keep your pets out of the batter—the eggs could contain salmonella bacteria that may lead to food poisoning. The sugar substitute Xylitol also used in many baked goods is very dangerous to pets.

Too Much of a Good Thing: A few small boneless pieces of cooked turkey, a taste of mashed potato or even a lick of pumpkin pie shouldn't pose a problem. However, don't allow your pets to overindulge, as they could wind up with a case of stomach upset, diarrhea or even worse—an inflammatory condition of the pancreas known as pancreatitis. In fact, it's best to keep pets on their regular diets during the holidays.

A Feast Fit for a Kong: While the humans are chowing down, you might offer your pets Nylabones or made-for-pet chew bones. Or stuff their usual dinner inside a Kong toy. They'll be happily occupied for awhile, while you enjoy dinner.



Also, for safe holidays:

- **Secure your Christmas tree**
- **Be sure electrical cords and wires are out of harm's way**
- **Keep Holiday plants away from pets**
- **Do not leave pets near lit candles**
- **Watch out for broken ornaments**
- **Christmas tree water—do not put anything in it in case your pet drinks it**
- **Watch the exits: a pet can escape through an open door.**

Enjoy your Holidays!



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From Blue
Ravine to all
our clients:

We wish you
Happy Holi-
days, a Happy
New Year and
a safe,
healthy and
prosperous
year ahead in
2022.

BLUE RAVINE OFFICE HOURS

Office hours: Monday through Friday, 7:00 am to 6:00 pm; Saturday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm; Sunday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.
For emergencies outside regular office hours, please call MarQueen Pet Emergency & Specialty, 916 757-6600
or Sacramento Veterinary Referral Center, 916 362-3111.

www.blueravineanimalhospital.com

Call 916-984-0990 now
to schedule your *free* Christmas
Photo with Santa. Photos will be
scheduled for December 4th
between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

(Limited Availability)

Santa is handing out Goodie Bags
to his guests!



BLUE RAVINE ANIMAL HOSPITAL
1770 Prairie City Rd., Folsom, CA.
916-984-0990