



# THE GARRISON PRESS

DECEMBER 2023



## Santa Paws is Comin' to Town!

You know what that means. All the stores are full to the brim with Christmas decorations (and have been since September). There is festive food being cooked, and sweet treats being baked. The garland is being strung, and the Christmas tree is loaded with bright shiny ornaments and lights. It's the most wonderful time of the year!

**But suddenly**, You hear a crash, and Fluffy is skittering away from the scene of the crime. The tree is on the floor and your precious ornaments are broken. Now Fido wants to investigate the noise and steps on a shattered ornament. Or maybe he chews on a string of lights. He may even just help himself to Santa's cookies while Fluffy laps up the milk.

While the Holidays are the exciting for us, unfortunately they can be stressful for our pets, which in turn means stress for us (and our wallets). A majority of the things that make Christmas what it is can be dangerous. In this month's newsletter, we would like to provide you with information to ensure a safe and happy holiday season for everyone involved.

Be sure to follow us on our Socials!



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The Garrison Press is a newsletter full of interesting articles, Veterinarian approved tips and tricks, and an inside peek at life here at Garrison Animal Hospital.



Inside this Month's Newsletter:

- Holiday Stress
- Food Safety
- December Deals
- Holiday Treat Recipe
- Safe Toys and Gifts Month



Business Hours:

Monday 8:00-5:00  
Tuesday 8:00-5:00  
Wednesday Closed  
Thursday 8:00-5:00  
Friday 8:00-5:00  
Saturday & Sunday Closed

[Request an Appointment](#)



# Holiday Deals



**\$25  
ACCOUNT  
CREDIT**

Receive a \$25 Account Credit when you refer a friend and they make an appointment. And they will receive the credit too!



**50%  
OFF FIRST  
EXAM**

Receive 50% off a new patient exam, for new and existing clients! Mention this ad.



352-340-5928



Gahreceptiondesk@gmail.com



## Tis' The Season.. For Stress

Christmas and New Years is exciting and fun for us humans, but in pets it can cause stress and anxiety.

The anxiety often stems from changes in routine with all the commotion during parties and new people around. The decorations while beautiful, are also something new and the sudden change can be scary.

**Exercise** can help burn some energy. Take them out to play fetch, or get them running with their favorite feather toy.

Create a **safe space** if you plan on having parties, so your furry friend can escape. Make it nice and cozy with their bed and favorite toys.

**Pheromone spray** is good for calming, and can help ease anxiety.

Set clear **boundaries** with guests (especially children) about respecting your pets personal space.



Pets are not  
presents, they  
are a  
*commitment.*





## December is...



## Safe Pet Toys & Gifts Month

Fact: It is in a dog's DNA to want to chew. Whether or not it is something they *should* be chewing on is a different story. Some safe options are hard rubber balls, tennis balls, or a rope with knots at each end.

Another Fact: Dogs love treats. A Kong or Busy box with treats inside satiate that while providing mental and physical stimulation.

Have you ever moved your feet underneath your blanket at night, and all of the sudden you are brutally attacked by a feline predator? That would be because pouncing, chasing and stalking are all a part of your cat's natural instincts. A laser pointer, feather toy, or a ball with a bell inside all cater to that instinct (and protect your feet)!



## The Gift that Keeps on Giving.

Give your dog the best gift of all by protecting them from Heartworm. Heartworms are very painful, but completely avoidable by keeping them on monthly prevention. Garrison Animal Hospital is now carrying Heartgard Plus in store.

Facts and resources about Heartworm can be found here

**Purchase 12 Months and receive an instant \$15 Rebate in store**



Beat the holiday rush!  
Stress-less and help avoid any holiday shipping delays by ordering your pet supplies early from our online store! 🐾

Place your orders today at:

[My VetStore Online](https://www.myvetstore.com)



**Simple, friendly payment plans**

[Find plan](#)

Not a Credit Card | No Deferred Interest

Scratch Plans in the U.S. are issued by WebBank.

Get the care you need today, and pay for treatment costs overtime with a Scratch Plan. Benefits of a Scratch Plan:

- Split treatment costs into smaller monthly (or bi-weekly) payments
- Not a credit card
- No deferred interest or membership fees

## Healthy Homemade Dog Treats



### Ingredients

- 1/2 cup all natural peanut butter
- 1/3 cup pumpkin puree
- 1 large egg
- 1 1/4 cup almond flour
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon turmeric



### Instructions

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Line a baking sheet with a silicone baking mat or parchment paper and set aside. In a medium-sized bowl combine combine peanut butter, pumpkin puree and egg; stir until well combined. You can use a hand-held electric mixer, if preferred.
- Add in almond flour, cinnamon, and turmeric and stir again until everything has come together into a dough. NOTE: The dough will be sticky.
- Scoop a heaping teaspoon of dough into your palms and gently roll and shape into a disc-shaped cookie. Place on the baking sheet and continue until you have 20 cookies on the tray. Use a fork to create a crisscross on top of each treat. It helps if the fork is wet so it doesn't stick to the dough.
- Bake for 20 minutes or until the dog treats are set and golden brown around the edges.

[Link to Recipe Here](#)



## Naughty Holiday Foods

We all know Chocolate is bad, but it is still one of the most common causes of dog poisoning. It contains caffeine and other ingredients that are toxic to dogs AND cats.



This seems like common sense, and while you may not be giving your dog alcohol, drinks are often left unattended at gatherings. Holiday drinks tend to be sweet, and curious pets could end up gulping down your eggnog.

All members of the onion family or closely related (shallots, garlic, scallions, etc.) contain components that can damage red blood cells in cats and dogs. Eating only a small amount can cause gastrointestinal irritation.



As bones cook, they lose their moisture and become brittle. You may think it natural to feed your dog a bone, but all cooked bones should be avoided. Bones can splinter and become lodged in your pet's throat or digestive system, causing serious injury.

Dogs and cats aren't built like us to break down lactose and, as a result, ingestion can lead to digestive issues. This includes all dairy products. Mostly this will cause acute intestinal distress.

