

LILLIES KILL CATS

Easter Lilly flowers are toxic to our feline friends who might nibble at the plants' petals and leaves.

Related flowers, such as tiger, Asiatic, Day, and Japanese Show lilies, are also poisonous to cats.

If you suspect that your cat has eaten any part of a lily or its pollen, call your veterinarian immediately!

Even eating just a couple of leaves or licking a few pollen grains off their fur can cause cats to suffer acute kidney failure. All parts of these plants, which are members of the *Lilium* and *Heimerocallis* genera, are considered poisonous.

The first symptom of lily toxicity in cats is vomiting. If you have lilies in your home, checking for missing petals or chewed leaves can tell you whether your cat has found the flowers.

Over the next 12 to 24 hours, the cat may start to urinate frequently, but then urinating might stop altogether, which is a sign of kidney failure. If not brought to a veterinarian, the cat will die within four to seven days. Other signs to watch for include drooling, loss of appetite and decreased activity.

Lilies are usually not as toxic to dogs, but may cause some gastrointestinal distress. However there's one similar flower, Lily of the Valley, which you should keep away from your dog, because this plant is highly dangerous for canines, too.

Other plants that are toxic to your pets include Aloe vera, Daphne, Kalanchoe, foxglove and yew bushes.

Questions? Call us anytime! 250-782-5616

