

Hi Ho! Hi Ho!

It's off to the beach we go – or not?



The end of the year is here and we're all looking forward to a much deserved break. That's all but our pets. The holiday season is accompanied by either a house full of visitors or a house full of cobwebs.

There are some preparations that can be done to ensure a carefree holiday time for you and your pets.

When expecting many visitors or in the event of a party, it is wise to confine your pets to a safe, quiet area for the duration of the event. Commotion confuses pets.

During long holidays, kennelling is the best solution for your pet. At this time of the year, these establishments are already quite full, so book well in advance for next year. Kennel staff are very experienced and well trained and pick up the slightest change in your pets behaviour. Do some research to find the best establishment for your pet.

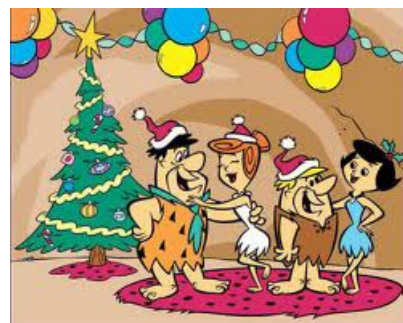
A pet sitter is an option for those of us who have postponed kennel booking for too long. Allow some time for the sitter and pets to get used to each other. They need to be introduced to each other before you leave. Clear instructions and a rescue 911 list has to be left with your pet sitter. Make arrangements with your vet attending to your pet while you are away.

Hitting the road!

Pets not used to travelling in the car, should be taken for short rides before your trip. Cats travel better and are safer in a carrier. Familiarize your pet with the carrier at least 2 weeks in advance. Plan your trip with 2 hourly stops to stretch your legs and snack. Various preparations are available from your vet to make the trip more comfortable for you and your pet.



Boom! Crash! Bang!



Good hearing makes dogs and cats sensitive to loud noises – some of them are just plain scared. During thunderstorms they should have a warm, dry area to find refuge in. Don't cuddle them – they become convinced that you are protecting them and the storm is really dangerous. The festive season always is accompanied by inconsiderate, cracker happy people. For those nights, get a

product from the vet to decrease your pets' anxiety or start praying for rain. Pets with noise phobias should be accompanied by these products if they are kennelled. Some medications are by prescription only and not readily available to lay people.

Identity crisis?



All pets should be identified with a permanent product such as a chip implanted under the skin. All stray animals are scanned at vets and rescue establishments. They are united with their owners instantly if they can be identified. The implanting of the chip is easy, quick and painless and the database is easily accessible. Phone us for an appointment.