

*Dedicated professionals and volunteers caring for the many stray and unwanted dogs and cats of Fulton County.*



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*Our Mission Statement*

*The James A. Brennan Memorial Humane Society is a non-profit, compassionate organization devoted to securing permanent, responsible, loving homes for the animals of Fulton County. The organization strives to achieve its mission through education and prevention of animal suffering. This shelter serves the Fulton County community in many ways:*

1. *Provides shelter, food, water, medical care and safety to stray, homeless and unwanted cats and dogs.*
2. *Helps families find new animal companion.*
3. *Returns lost pets to their owners.*
4. *Teaches humane education in schools, kindness towards animals: safety around animals, the link between animal cruelty and violence against humans and builds self-confidence.*
5. *Has the most aggressive Spay/Neuter Program for low-income families in Fulton County.*
6. *Pet Food Bank for Seniors in Fulton County, helping seniors with financial difficulties feeding their companions.*
7. *Girl Scouts merit badge programs.*
8. *Alternative School Program, providing work-study opportunities for students. Advocates for Animal Law at the State and Federal levels.*
9. *Perhaps most importantly the Brennan Humane Society provides a tangible example of humane ethics and compassion for all living*

## **Autumn Safety Tips**

Ah, fall—there's nothing like crisp, cool air, the first months of school and luscious foliage to get you excited for the changing seasons. Your pet, too, is probably welcoming the break from hot, sticky weather. But pet parents, beware—fall is also a time of lurking dangers for our furry friends. From household poisons to cold weather hazards, the season is a minefield! Here are some tips to keep your pet snug and healthy during the autumn months.

\* The use of rodenticides increases in the fall as rodents seek shelter from the cooler temperatures by attempting to move indoors. Rodenticides are highly toxic to pets—if ingested, the results could be fatal. If you must use these products, do so with extreme caution and put them in places inaccessible to your pets.

\* It's back-to-school time, and those of you with young children know that means stocking up on fun items like glue sticks, pencils and magic markers. These items are considered "low toxicity" to pets, which means they're unlikely to cause serious problems unless large amounts are ingested. However, since gastrointestinal upset and blockages certainly are possible, be sure your children keep their school supplies out of paw's reach.

\* Training tip: If you and your pooch haven't been active outdoors in a while because of the summer heat, do some remedial recall training. Dogs, like people, get rusty on their skills if they aren't using them.

\* Fall and spring are mushroom seasons. While 99% of mushrooms have little or no toxicity, the 1% that are highly toxic (PDF) can cause life-threatening problems in pets. Unfortunately, most of the highly toxic mushrooms are difficult to distinguish from the nontoxic ones, so the best way to keep pets from ingesting poisonous mushrooms is to keep them away from areas where any mushrooms are growing. Contact your veterinarian or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center immediately if you witness your pet eating a wild mushroom.

\* In order to generate body heat, pets who exercise heavily outdoors, or who live outdoors, should be given more food during colder seasons. Make sure horses and other outdoor animals have access to clean, fresh water that is not frozen.

\* Autumn is the season when snakes who are preparing for hibernation may be particularly “grumpy,” increasing the possibility of severe bites to those unlucky pups who find themselves in the wrong place at the wrong time. Pet owners should know what kinds of venomous snakes may be in their environment—and where these snakes are most likely to be found—so they can keep pets out of those areas.

\* Many people choose fall as the time to change their car’s antifreeze. Ethylene glycol-based antifreezes are highly toxic, so spills should be cleaned up immediately. Consider switching to propylene glycol-based antifreezes—though they aren’t completely nontoxic, they are much less toxic than other antifreezes.