

CrossTown Pet Care^{LLC}

Mobile pet grooming service



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How to Help Create a Healthier Environment for Your Pet

We all want our pets to thrive in a clean, comfortable and healthy environment.

In order to be able to provide this, we humans need to be accountable for our actions that cause a toxic environment. Each year, we dump innumerable tons of toxins into our land and water. Surely, if we truly understood the impact of what we dump into the Earth - how this affects the fate of every living thing, including ourselves, our children and our pets, we might start to change some of our habits.

A shocking national survey by the Public Health Service showed that Americans have hundreds of toxic chemicals stored in our fatty tissues. Nearly all of us have such harmful substances as dioxin, benzene, styrene, and ethyl phenol. Significant majorities have PCBs, radioactive isotopes, lead, heavy metals, asbestos and numerous pesticides. These poisons are in higher concentrations in our pets, probably because of their small size.

Because our pets live in close contact with the ground, realizing the chemicals they come in contact with is essential. They sit, play and sleep on it, and our pets' fur attracts all the dust and dirt they are exposed to.

Some types of indoor pollution our pets are exposed to would be formaldehyde, lead and radon. These chemicals waft into the air from household products, furniture and other common sources. Outdoor pollutants include pressure treated wood, house and garden pesticides, termite control and certain automotive fluids.

Even if you don't use toxic pesticides, they may drift onto your property from neighbor's yards, nearby parks, campuses, etc. Find out when people plan to spray, so you can close your windows. Pesticides have a longer lifespan indoors.

There are ways we can help minimize our exposure to all these toxins.

Use entry mats and remove shoes at the front door. Houseclean thoroughly and often. Keep entry clear of dirt. Try to avoid shag and deep pile carpets - consider natural wood, tile and washable rugs. Avoid commercial air fresheners. Change your pet's water daily and make sure the bowl is clean. **Don't allow smoking in your home.** Ventilate your home whenever possible.

There are also certain houseplants that "clean" inside air. These include philodendrons, spider plants, aloe vera, and gerbera daisies and chrysanthemums.

Speak to a knowledgeable nursery salesperson to help you choose the least toxic pesticides, insecticides and natural fertilizers. Think of how sick we would be if we walked through a chemically treated lawn and then licked our feet when we got into the house!

There are many nontoxic, effective ways to clean your home and its contents, and avoid chemical warfare on your pets. A quick internet search can pull up many options that will result in a MUCH healthier environment for you and your pets, and can save you money to boot. One of these sites is: <http://www.thenewhomemaker.com/natural-cleaning-alternatives>.

Even though environmental pollution and disturbances are a fact of modern life, a great deal of contamination in our homes comes from what we deliberately bring into them. It is wise to use the many sensible ways available to make our homes healthier for both our pets and ourselves.

Cross Town Pet Care, LLC assumes no liability for injury to you or your pet incurred by following these descriptions, procedures or suggestions.