



Practice Limited to Birds, Reptiles and Exotics

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SAFETY TIPS FOR BIRDS

Birds have a curious nature and when allowed free household access are at a potential risk of becoming exposed to toxicants. The following are some helpful poison prevention tips to keep your feathered friends safe:

- Be aware of the plants that you have in your home. Some plants could produce life threatening clinical problems if ingested.
- Store all cleaners, pesticides, prescriptions and over the counter medications out of your birds reach.
- Never give your bird medication unless you are directed to do so by an avian veterinarian. Many medications that are safe for humans can be deadly to birds.
- **Never give your bird – chocolate, avocado, alcohol, caffeine, onions, or seeds from fruits.**

TOXIC FUMES & AIRBORNE HAZARDS

Due to a bird's small size, high metabolic rate, low body fat, and efficient respiratory system, our birds can quickly die when exposed to airborne toxins. One of the worst is **polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE)** which comes under the brand names **Teflon, Supra, Silverstone**, and many others. Most cooking products with a non-stick surface contains PTFE unless otherwise specified. The following is a partial list of products that may have non-stick coatings:

- Irons and ironing board covers
- Electric grills and skillets
- Tortilla presses, pizza pans, and waffle makers
- Portable heaters

Before using any product, be sure that it is PTFE free.

Also be sure to avoid candles, aerosolized sprays, and scented plug-ins in the same room as your bird.

We strongly recommend annual health examinations and routine blood work on all exotics!

