


# Springtime Safety Tips for Your Dog

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Ah, springtime. The temperatures aren't quite so brisk, the sun seems to be shining a bit brighter, and plants are blooming everywhere. With the arrival of spring, many people spend more time outdoors with their four-legged friends. While that has numerous benefits, the new season brings with it unique concerns for pet parents. *To help you get the most out of your time with your pup, here are some spring dog safety tips.*

## Get to Know Your Greens

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Whether you have a garden at home or you frequently encounter greenery on your walks, keep your dog away from unfamiliar plants. Aside from the fact that a curious canine could destroy a garden rather quickly, many plants and fertilizers are toxic to dogs.

## Watch for Allergies

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Just like humans, dogs can have seasonal allergies. Plants, pollen, changes in the air, and seasonal weather changes can cause sneezing, sniffing, watery or red eyes, itching, and dry skin. Most of the time allergies are mild, but if your dog is especially bothered by them, consider installing a dog door so he can seek relief indoors.

## Don't Allow Digging

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In addition to being destructive, digging can endanger your dog. Sticks are choking hazards, as they can easily splinter if chewed on. There are also many critters just under the now-thawed surface, and they may not all be as friendly as your pet is. If your dog

can't be trusted not to dig, get a [dog door with a removable panel insert](#) to keep him or her from going in and out freely.

## Prevent Pests

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Speaking of critters, springtime brings a lot of them out and many are harmful to dogs. The [American Heartworm Society](#) recommends that dogs be protected year-round from fleas, ticks, and heartworms. If you're wondering how to keep your dog safe, it's thankfully very simple. Preventive medicine comes in pill or topical form and is easy to give, affordable, and highly effective.

## Dog Park Do's and Don'Ts

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More dogs and owners get out and enjoy dog parks in the spring, which is great. Dogs need friends too! However, dog parks can also be unsafe if you don't know the proper etiquette or what to watch for. First, be sure your dog is up to date on all vaccinations and has the proper license before you head to the park. While there, pay close attention to the dogs' body language, as roughhousing can quickly go too far.

## Keep Your Pets Safe This Spring With Pet Door Products

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Spring is a wonderful time to enjoy the fresh, warmer air — just don't forget about your pup! One of the best spring dog safety tips we can give is to have a [Pet Door Products](#) pet door installed. They're energy-efficient, made in the US, and give you the freedom to either let your dog go in and out at will or keep him in (or out). [The pet doors](#) install right into your existing sliding glass door! [Contact us](#) today to discuss all the options.