

Native Plants



Chokecherry

Description: This large tree has green leaves which quickly turn burgundy red after they emerge; white flowers in spring are followed by dark purple cherries in summer.

Toxicity: The seeds contained in the berries are toxic to dogs and cats. The berries are not toxic to humans.



Foxtail

Description: Spike at the end of the plant has barbed seeds which grow to resemble a horse's tail.

Toxicity: The plant is not toxic, however the seeds can be extremely dangerous if they enter the nose or mouth of a pet. They can become lodged and cause respiratory infection. They can enter the body and move into tissues, causing infections.



Honeysuckle

Description: Multi-stemmed woody shrub with simple and opposite leaves; small pale pink and white flowers in summer.

Toxicity: This plant is toxic to dogs and the flowers are toxic to cats. The plant is only mildly toxic to humans.



Purslane

Description: Low growing plant with succulent leaves on reddish branches radiating from a single stem.

Toxicity: Edible plant for humans but is toxic to dogs and cats.



Toadflax

Description: On yellow toadflax, gray-green, 2" long pointed leaves alternate but may appear to be opposite vs. Dalmatian toadflax, which has clasping, heart-shaped or egg-shaped leaves. The leaves of both species are because they are crowded together; flower resembles a pale yellow snapdragon with an orange yellow throat.

Toxicity: If ingested, toadflax is toxic to dogs, cats and humans. It can also cause skin irritation in humans.



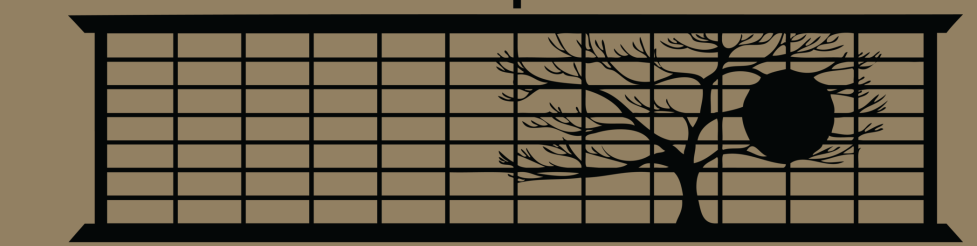
Wild Mustard

Description: 1-3' tall branching plant with downward pointing hairs; bright yellow flowers are clustered on the end of the branches.

Toxicity: Wild mustard is toxic to dogs, cats, and humans.



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TOXIC PLANTS IN THE CALGARY AREA



Vegetable Plants



Rhubarb

Toxicity: Leaves are toxic to humans, cats, and dogs.



Potato

Toxicity: The plant, flowers and raw peel is toxic to humans, cats and dogs. [Image: Lucas van Oort (Unplash)]



Tomato

Toxicity: The entire plant, except the fruit, is toxic to humans, cats, and dogs.

Emergency contact numbers:

Poison and Drug Information Service (PADIS):

1-800-332-1414 (Alberta Wide Toll-free)

Pet Poison Helpline: 1-800-213-6680 (charges will apply)

Written by: Marian Mulligan
Photos by: Marian Mulligan

🌸 Common Garden Plants



Clematis

Height: 6' plus
Spread: vine

Description: Vine with a profusion of flowers midsummer.

Toxicity: When ingested this plant is mildly toxic to dogs, cats and humans. It can cause irritation if touched.

Alternatives: Virginia Creeper



Columbine

Height: 1-2'
Spread: 1'

Description: Long spurred white and red, blue, pink, yellow or lavender bi-color flowers stand above green foliage.

Toxicity: When ingested this plant is toxic to dogs and cats. Although the flowers are sometimes used in salad, the roots and seeds are toxic to humans.

Alternatives: Coreopsis, Geranium



Dianthus (Carnation)

Height: 8-18"
Spread: 8-18"

Description: Tidy clump forming; green-blue foliage; bright single or double flowers of white, pink or red.

Toxicity: When ingested this plant is toxic to dogs and cats. Dianthus is not toxic to humans and the flowers are edible.

Alternatives: Iberis (Candytuft), Campanula



Elderberry

Height: 4-12'
Spread: 4-12'

Description: Fast growing shrub with white flowers in summer; berries in clumps in summers; quick to grow.

Toxicity: When ingested this plant is toxic to dogs and cats. The flowers are not toxic to humans and berries are edible if cooked.

Alternatives: Lilac, Mock Orange



Hosta

Height: 8"-2'
Spread: 8"-3'

Description: Ribbed leaves grow up from a cluster at the base of the plant; green, blue-green, chartreuse, white margins.

Toxicity: When ingested this plant is toxic to dogs and cats. Hosta are edible and are not toxic to humans.

Alternatives: Brunnera



Hydrangea

Height: 3-5'
Spread: 3'

Description: Shrub bearing large clusters of white flowers in late summer.

Toxicity: When ingested this plant is toxic to dogs, cats and humans.

Alternatives: Rose, Spirea



Iris

Height: 6"-3'
Spread: 8"-2'

Description: Broad flat leaves emerge in flat groups; center petals stand upright and are surrounded by a cascading set of petals.

Toxicity: When ingested this plant is toxic to dogs and mildly toxic to cats and humans. It can cause irritation if touched.

Alternatives: Coreopsis, Gerbera Daisy, Echinacea



Lily

Height: 2-3'
Spread: 2-3'

Description: Bright trumpet shaped flowers in mid-summer; gracefully arching wide grass-like foliage.

Toxicity: Daylilies (Hemerocallis) are extremely toxic to cats. They are not toxic to humans or dogs.

Alternatives: Liatris, Penstemon



Monkshood (Wolfsbane)

Height: 4'
Spread: 2'

Description: Dark blue or blue and white hood-like flowers in summer to early fall.

Toxicity: When ingested this plant is extremely toxic to dogs, cats, and humans.

Alternatives: Phlox, Campanula persicifolia