

IF YOUR DOG DOES ACCIDENTALLY INGEST ANTIFREEZE, PUSH A FLUID WITH ELECTROLYTES, LIKE PEDI-A-LITE OR GATORADE. THE ANTIFREEZE WILL CAUSE DEHYDRATION, THE ELECTROLYTES COUNTERACT THE DEHYDRATION ... ONE PERSON DID THIS TO SAVE AN ANIMAL WHEN HE INGESTED A SMALL AMOUNT OF ANTIFREEZE THAT WAS TRACKED INTO THE HOUSE ON A PAIR OF SHOES . THE EMERGENCY VET CLINIC TOLD THEM THE DOG WAS PROBABLY GOING TO DIE, BUT AT \$375 A NIGHT, THEY COULD NOT LEAVE HIM THERE. THEY WENT HOME AND FED HIM PEDIALYTE BY THE DROPPER FULL EVERY 5 MINUTES ... 6 YEARS LATER HE IS STILL HERE .

Prevention and First Aid

Without a doubt, preventing your dog from having access to antifreeze is by far the safest solution to antifreeze poisoning. Keep your antifreeze jugs on a high shelf in your garage where it can't get knocked over, and immediately mop up any spills that happen when you refill your vehicle's reservoir. It takes very little antifreeze to kill a pet. If you suspect your dog has ingested antifreeze, you must get him to a vet immediately.

Signs of Antifreeze Poisoning

- Staggering
- Vomiting
- Confusion/disorientation
- Listlessness
- Excessive drinking and urination

Stage One

The first stage of antifreeze poisoning starts approximately thirty minutes after ingestion. Your dog will appear to be drunk, he may vomit, stagger and suffer from confusion and disorientation.

This stage of the poisoning may last for several hours.

Stage Two

- Diarhea
- Convulsions
- Unconsciousness

Stage two will commence after your dog will have gone through what appears to be a recovery period. He'll seem to be getting better, but shortly (possibly a day or longer) afterwards, the toxins will permanently damage his liver and kidneys as these organs try to metabolize the poison.

Emergency First Aid

Immediate veterinary assistance is the only thing that will save your dog. Inducing vomiting and giving your dog activated charcoal will not cure your dog, but it will lessen the poison that is in his system. Save any of vomited material, and bring it with you to the vet's.

Prevention

Switching to a propylene-glycol-based antifreeze, a safer, less-toxic alternative to ethylene glycol is one step that many pet owners take to protect their dogs from accidental antifreeze poisoning. Routine vehicle maintenance, and keeping an eye out for evidence of leaks (greenish pools underneath your car), and immediate clean-up of all spills are very important. Dogs that wander the neighborhood unsupervised are more prone to antifreeze poisoning, so keeping your dog under your supervision and leashed is also a step in preventing accidental poisoning, and not just from antifreeze.