

“Dog Treats”

from BloomingPaws veterinarians

source: <http://www.bloomingpaws.net/learning-library/>

Healthy Treats:

- Nylabones ® — get the heavy-duty ones with the tough plastic.
- “Antler” chews — give these only under careful supervision.
- Baby carrots/small peeled apple pieces — they have enzymes that are good for tooth- and gum-health and are low in calories.
- Kong ® toys
- Starmark treats (at Petco) — these are good because a dog will use both front and back teeth to chew on them.
- Greenies ®
- Dentastix ™
- Defrosted raw bones — good for immune system and oral health
 - Available in many pet stores or trusted butchers
 - Give one to two weekly, as they could cause stomach issues if given daily.
 - Make sure to carefully supervise your dog(s) with bones.
 - Be sure they are defrosted or your dog could chip a tooth.
- Stewart® brand freeze-dried raw liver treats
 - These can be sprinkled onto the food daily.
 - Another way to get raw food into your dog’s diet
- Coconut oil
 - 1 teaspoon for small dogs
 - 1 tablespoon for large dogs
 - Give several times a week
 - Can be added to the food
- Extra-virgin olive oil
 - 1 teaspoon for small dogs
 - 1 tablespoon for large dogs
 - Give several times a week

- Good source of antioxidants
- Can be added to the food
- Low-fat cottage cheese, or plain or vanilla yogurt
 - Be sure your dog is not sensitive to dairy.

Treats to Avoid:

- Pup-Peroni dog treats
 - Have been associated with hyperthyroidism in dogs (rare but has happened)
- Beef jerky treats
 - Have been associated with hyperthyroidism in dogs (rare but has happened)
 - Have been believed to cause issues with regard to liver and kidneys in some dogs, most likely due to China sources
- Beggin'® strips
- Peanut butter (cheaper brands)
 - Cheap brands almost certainly contain xylitol, a sweetening agent. It can be deadly in a short amount of time, as it causes an increase in insulin production in the body. This then leads to a threatening decrease in blood sugar and, ultimately, liver failure as well. Instead, offer organic peanut butter, when you can, for several reasons: first, because it will not contain xylitol; second, because most other peanut butters have a significant amount of salt; and, finally, because many cheap brands are made from peanuts which have been grown using some questionable pesticides.
- NEVER give onions, grapes, or raisins to dogs.
- Never feed dogs chicken necks, feet, or tails.

Further Information on Treats:

- All treats should be 'Made In the USA.'
- Always closely watch dogs with treats.
- Do NOT allow competition between dogs. Dog fights could occur over bones.

- Do not leave bones down where a dog can get them when you are not present to watch the dog(s).
 - Bones can chip and then need to be taken away immediately, since there is the possibility of choking if pieces are swallowed.
- Never give pre-cooked bones or other bones sold on the shelves of pet stores because they may have been processed with questionable chemicals.
- Most pet stores will order items for people if they do not carry them routinely.

Where to Get Some of these Treats (in Bloomington):

- T & T pet food store
- BloomingPaws (we sell dental treats)
- Petco
- Wagon Wheel — they sell raw bones.
- Red Frazier Bison — they also sell raw bones.