Here in Hawaii the *Bufo Marinus* or marine toad can be toxic to pets. When a pet mouths the toad a potent toxin is released from the toad's salivary gland. This toxin has a bitter taste and is very irritating. It will cause immediate salivation, frothing and vomiting. In as little as 15 minutes, your pet can start to have very serious neurologic (seizures, tremors, coma) and cardiac signs (rapid heart rate, hypertension).

If you suspect that your pet has mouthed a marine toad, immediately flush the mouth with water. You can use a garden hose or detachable shower head and then a cloth to clean the gums. DO NOT flush the oral cavity if your pet is having a seizure or if your pet is not responsive.

After flushing the mouth, immediately seek veterinary care for evaluation and treatment. Medications to control the heart rate and blood pressure along with seizures or tremors may be needed.

Prognosis with immediate treatment is good.