And to make matters worse, many of these pets still get fleas and ticks even with the use of toxic chemical agents.

That's why I believe in using natural pest repellents and other non-toxic pest control methods whenever possible.

Fipronil, the active ingredient in a popular topical flea product (Frontline) has been associated with aggressive behaviour, kidney damage, and "drastic alterations in thyroid function." It's extremely toxic to fish, birds, and bees.

Advantix another popular flea/tick control can cause death in just hours for a cat.

Some side effects include skin irritations, diarrhoea, gastro intestinal problems etc.

In the case of the most popular products, the "topical tubes" like Frontline, Advantage, and their cousins, the warning is largely aimed at you, the user.

From an Actual label:

"Keep out of the reach of children.

Children should not come in contact with the application site for 30 minutes after application.

Causes eye irritation. Harmful if swallowed. Do not get in eyes or on clothing. Avoid contact with skin. Wash hands thoroughly with soap and warm water after handling.

If contact with skin or clothing occurs, take off contaminated clothing. Wash skin immediately with plenty of soap and water."

So, think with me here.

The companies are warning you not to get this in or on your body and especially your child's body, but it's somehow just fine to put on your pet's skin?

How many of us pat, cuddle and have our pets sleeping in the bed with us.

If you knew something was poison, you'd want to keep it away from your pet, right? Protecting your loved ones is natural, but countless dogs and cats get poisoned on a regular basis, all in the name of "flea control."

There are safe, natural flea control alternatives, and they are still convenient and easy to use, but don't poison your dog or cat (or your kids!).

