



Beat the Heat

Summertime Pet Safety Tips

1. Never leave your pet alone in the car.

Even with the car running and air conditioner on, temperatures inside a vehicle can rise rapidly to dangerous levels. On an 85° F day, with the windows opened slightly, the temperature in the car can reach 102° F in 10 minutes and 120° F in 30 minutes. When in doubt, leave your pet at home.

2. Exercise during cooler hours.

Pets may be eager to be outside during the summer, but it's important to pay attention to temperature and humidity levels. Exercise your pet when temperatures are cooler, such as in the early morning or evening hours, especially if they are overweight or flat-faced. Also remember, if the asphalt is too hot for your bare feet, it's too hot for their paws, so encourage them to walk on grass if possible.

3. Protect against external parasites.

Fleas, ticks, and heartworms (transmitted by mosquitoes) are out in force during the summer months. Protect your pet year-round with preventative medicine as prescribed by your veterinarian.

4. Provide shade and water.

Always have a bowl of fresh, cool water available for your pets while outside and shade that they can escape from the summer sun.

5. Apply sunscreen.

Sunburns aren't limited to humans! Any dog with short hair or that is light in color is susceptible to sunburns. Apply pet-friendly sunscreen to protect their skin.

Be Aware of the Signs of Heat Stroke

- Heavy Panting
- Glazed Eyes
- Rapid Heartbeat
- Difficulty Breathing
- Excessive Thirst
- Lethargy
- Fever
- Dizziness
- Lack of Coordination
- Profuse Salivation
- Vomiting
- Deep red/purple tongue
- Seizure
- Unconsciousness

If you suspect your pet is suffering from heat stroke, contact your veterinarian immediately.