

HOT WEATHER TIPS

- ◆ Provide outside pets with a properly constructed dog house in a shady area. Always provide plenty of cool, clean water in bowls that won't tip over.
- ◆ Bring your pet inside during the hottest part of the day so they can rest in a cool place. Let them go outside during the morning and evening hours when the temperature is cooler.
- ◆ Do not walk your pet on hot asphalt. It can cause their body temperature to heat quickly or it can burn their paws which are not protected by shoes.
- ◆ Don't walk your pet in areas that may have been sprayed with insecticide or other chemicals, common during the summer gardening months. These chemicals can make your pet sick or kill them. If your pet has been exposed to poison call your veterinarian immediately.
- ◆ Don't exercise your pet in extremely hot weather or just after a meal. Always exercise them in the cool early morning or evening, at least one hour after meals.
- ◆ Keep your pet's coat clean to help prevent summer skin problems. Rinse salt water or chlorine water off of your pet immediately.
- ◆ Be sensitive to older dogs, overweight dogs, snub nose dogs and those with heart or lung disease. They should be kept indoors, in air conditioning, as much as possible.
- ◆ Don't leave your pet in an unattended car, even with the windows down.

Heat stress can kill your pet. Be aware of symptoms of heat stress so that you can act quickly to save your pet:

- ◆ Profuse panting and drooling, vomiting
- ◆ Staring or an anxious expression, glazed eyes
- ◆ a rapid pulse
- ◆ unsteadiness, staggering gait
- ◆ deep red or purple tongue, warm, dry skin
- ◆ fatigue

If your pet has heat stress you must lower his/her temperature immediately:

- ◆ Move your pet into the shade and apply cool water all over his/her body.
- ◆ Apply ice packs to the pet's head, neck and chest.
- ◆ Let your pet drink small amounts of water or lick ice cubes.
- ◆ Take your pet to the veterinarian right away- it could save your pet's life.

COLD WEATHER TIPS

- ◆ Provide outside pets with a dry, insulated dog house that is elevated from the ground.
- ◆ Bring your pet inside when the weather is severe, when frost warnings are issued or when winds are very strong.
- ◆ Keep indoor pets in a dry, warm area free of drafts. Keep pet beds elevated off the floor.
- ◆ Always keep fresh, clean water available for your pets.
- ◆ Pets may need extra calories during the winter months to keep warm. Discuss a feeding schedule with your veterinarian.
- ◆ Outdoor cats and kittens will lay in car engine compartments for warmth. Always make noise, bang on your hood and honk your horn before starting your car. This gives the cat a chance to escape.
- ◆ Clean up antifreeze spills immediately. The smell and taste of antifreeze is enticing to pets, but even a small amount will kill them.
- ◆ Many holiday treats are toxic to pets. Never feed your pet alcoholic beverages, chocolate, or meat or bones from poultry, pork or fish. Also keep your pets away from holiday plants such as mistletoe, holly, Christmas rose, philodendron and dieffenbachia which may be poisonous to pets.
- ◆ Beware of holiday decorations. Cover or tack down electrical cords. Keep tinsel, glass ornaments, ribbons, plastic or foil wrappings and six pack beverage holders out of your pet's reach. Read warning labels on fake snow and other decorations.

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