

Emergency Preparedness – Pet Summer Safety

June 2022



It is important to take the necessary steps to prevent your pets from overheating. Since pets can become dehydrated quickly, make sure they have plenty of fresh, clean water, especially when it's hot or humid outside. Also, it is very important that your pets have a shady place to get out of the sun. If possible, keep them indoors when it is extremely hot and make sure not to over exercise them on these hot days.

When the temperature is very high, don't let your dog linger on the hot asphalt. Being so close to the ground, your dog's body can heat up quickly, and sensitive paw pads can burn. Keep walks to a minimum on hot days.

Commonly used rodenticides and lawn and garden insecticides can be harmful to cats and dogs if ingested. Keep citronella candles, tiki torch products and insect coils out of pets reach as well. Should your pet ingest any of these, call the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center at (888) 426-4465.

Not all dog breeds are born to be good swimmers. Introduce your pets to water gradually and make sure they wear flotation devices when on boats. Rinse your dog off after swimming to remove chlorine or salt from their fur and try to prevent your dog from drinking pool water, due to the chemicals. It is important not to leave pets unsupervised around pools.

Symptoms for overheated pets

1. Excessive panting
2. Difficulty breathing
3. Increased heart rate
4. Excessive drooling
5. Mild weakness
6. Stupor or collapsing
7. Seizures
8. Bloody stools
9. Vomiting
10. High temperature

It's Hot Out!

Don't Leave Your Pet in the Car!



A car can overheat **even** when the window has been left cracked an inch or two.



Young, overweight or elderly animals, or those with short muzzles or thick or dark-colored coats are **most** at risk for overheating.



Shady spots offer **little** protection on hot days, and move with the sun.

90°

Even if the temperature outside is only 70°, the inside of your car may be as much as 20 degrees hotter!

102°

On an 85° day, it only takes ten minutes for the inside of your car to reach 102°.

120°

Within just 30 minutes, the car's interior can climb from 85° to a scorching 120°.



Many states and local governments have laws that prohibit leaving an animal unattended in a motor vehicle under dangerous conditions, which includes hot days. Your car could be damaged or you could be charged with a crime.

ASPCA

If you see an animal trapped in a car on a hot day, try to locate the owner or call 911! **Stay by the car until assistance arrives.**

