



Hot Weather Tips for Your Pets

Tips from H.O.P.E. Animal Rescue

Summer is right around the corner! While we all love spending the long, sunny days outside with our furry friends, spending *too* much time in the hot weather can be dangerous for your pets.

Unlike humans, dogs can't efficiently cool themselves down. They regulate their body temperature by panting and releasing small amounts of heat through their paw pads. In extreme heat, that is not enough to keep them from heat stress or exhaustion/stroke.

Here are some tips to prevent your pets from overheating:

1. NEVER LEAVE YOUR PETS ALONE IN A PARKED VEHICLE!

CAR TEMPERATURE DOG SAFETY CHART

Running into the store for "just a minute" can be fatal for a dog left in the car!

IF IT'S THIS HOT OUTSIDE:	IT ONLY TAKES THIS LONG:	TO REACH THIS INSIDE:
75°	10 Min.	100°
75°	30 Min.	120°
85°	5 Min.	90°
85°	7-8 Min.	100°
100°	15 Min.	140°

DON'T LEAVE YOUR DOG IN THE CAR THIS SUMMER!

2. Provide plenty of fresh, clean water: Pets can easily get dehydrated when it is hot or humid outdoors. (*Room temp water is actually better than cold!*)

3. Make sure your pets have a shady place to get out of the sun.

4. Do not over-exercise your pets.

5. Keep them indoors when it is extremely hot.

6. Look for signs of overheating. This includes shade-seeking behavior, excessive panting, scooped tongue, stressed or red eyes, difficulty breathing, drooling, decrease in responsiveness.

7. Provide a kiddie pool when possible. Allow them to swim in the lake or lay in a puddle if needed.

8. When the temperature is very high, do not let your dog linger on hot asphalt. A good rule of thumb is, if the pavement is too hot for your hand, then it is too hot for your dog to walk on. Keep them on grass when possible. (*Mushers' secrets can also help their paws in the summer months!*)

TOO HOT TO TROT

Hot pavement can burn your dog's paws and lead to heat exhaustion or heatstroke.

Asphalt can be 40-60 degrees hotter than the air temperature. Test the pavement. Hold the back of your hand down for 10 seconds, if it burns your hand, it can burn your dog's paws.

AIR TEMPERATURE	CONCRETE	ASPHALT
75°	90°	125°
80°	95°	130°
85°	105°	135°
90°	125°	140°
95°	140°	150°