



SUMMER WEATHER TIPS

Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC)

Summer Heat and Animals

Summer is a great time to spend with our furry friends but we need to make sure that they are safe. Too much heat is dangerous. Here are some tips from your friends at DACC :

1. Keep pets cool by keeping them indoors or in well-shaded areas outdoors

Pets need protection from direct sunlight. A shaded area outdoors can provide environment that is 10F less compared to being under direct sunlight. They also need good airflow to help them regulate their body heat. It is best to keep them in an area where the temperature and humidity can be controlled.

2. Provide plenty of fresh, clean water at all times

Water is the easiest way to help our pets cool down. They need the moisture in their body to cool themselves when they pant. Adding ice can help them cool faster.

3. Limit exercise

Take extra care when exercising your pet. Limit exercise to early morning and evening hours. Always carry water for your pet and pay attention to how well they are doing with the activity. Don't let your dogs walk on hot asphalt, concrete or artificial turf. If the surface is too hot for you to walk on bare foot, it is too hot for them.

4. Never, ever leave your pet in your parked car

Cars are like ovens and they heat up real fast, even with windows slightly open. An outside temp of 70F can easily rise to 90F or an outside temp of 85F rises to 102F within mins.

5. Trim, do not shave off body fur

Layers of fur on our pet's body can protect them from overheating and sunburn. Trimming layers or brushing regularly gets rid of the "winter coat" that some breeds grow for the cold months.

6. At Risk Pets

Animals with flat faces such as Pugs, Bulldogs, Boxers and Persian cats are more susceptible to heat. So are the elderly, overweight pets, and pets with heart or lung conditions. These pets need to be kept in air conditioned rooms as much as possible.

Providing Proper Shelter:

Anyone who fails to provide proper shelter or protection from the weather for their animal is guilty of a misdemeanor or a felony and may be fined up to \$20,000 or imprisoned.

[CA Penal Code §597(b)]

Signs of Heat Stress

- Excessive panting
- Increased/Difficulty breathing
- Increased heart rate
- Drooling
- Mild weakness
- Collapse

What To Do ?

- Move your pet immediately to a shaded, well-ventilated area
- Apply icepacks or cold towels to footpads, abdomen and between their thighs where there is less fur
- Offer small amounts of water to drink or some ice to lick. Make sure they are swallowing.
- Take them directly to a



Keep your pets stay cool !