

<u>Pet Summer Safety Tips</u> for Extreme Heat

- Water Give your pets plenty of fresh, clean water. Animals can get dehydrated very quickly especially in the heat.
- Shade Make sure your pet has a place to go to get out of the sun. Try to keep them indoors during extreme heat.
- Rest Do not over-exercise your animal in the heat. On a sweltering day, the best time to exercise your pet is in the early morning or late evening.
- Watch Never leave your animals alone in a parked vehicle. In extreme heat, the temperature can rise in your vehicle very quickly. This can leave your pet vulnerable to heat stroke, which can onset very quickly.

Signs of Pet Overheating

- Rapid panting
- Pale gums
- Thick, drooling saliva
- Wide eyes with a glassy look
- Unsteady gait
- Bright red tongue and skin
- Dizziness and lethargy
- Nausea, diarrhea and vomiting

What to do if Your Pet is Overheating

- Move your pet into the shade, or indoors where it is cooler.
- Use a fan to blow air on your pet.
- Wet your pet's coat with cool water to lower his body temperature.
- Offer cool water if the dog will take it.
- If the above do not seem to be working, place ice packs or wet towels in the groin area, armpits and neck.
- Contact your veterinarian for further guidance.

Dog Breeds Particularly Susceptible to Overheating

• Certain dog breeds - including Bulldogs, Pekingese, Shih Tzu's, Pugs and Boston Terriers - require extra care in the heat. These breeds become susceptible to the effects of warm surroundings and exertion more quickly as they do not pant as efficiently as longer faced dogs.







