



Sorry this months newsletter is so late, we have been very busy! We thank you all for keeping us that way. This month we want to share some tips for keeping pets happy and healthy during the "dog" days of summer. We know summer is almost over but the hottest days are likely still ahead of us. The "dog" days of summer refer to the longer and hotter days during the month of August and early September.

How do we keep our pets cool? Dogs and cats don't have many sweat glands so they can't get rid of excess heat very easily. This can lead to heat exhaustion and can get worse if they can't cool down. You have to be careful though because a dog or cat that is too hot, can not be cooled down too quickly or it can cause more stress to the body. If your dog likes to swim this is a perfect way for them to cool down. When they get out of the water the air will evaporate the water leaving the skin cooler. Just like if they had sweat glands like us. This process is called evaporated cooling, and it can be accomplished another ways as well. Our dogs don't like to swim, but they don't mind being sprayed down with the hose. This accomplishes the same goal as a quick swim, or if your dog likes to play in a sprinkler its all the same idea.

Providing a cool treat, can help them to pant less when it's hot. Dogs sweat glands are on their feet and in their mouths, and they don't have many. If your pet is outside during the hottest part of the day (10 am-2 pm) they will probably pant to help get rid of excess heat. Unfortunately they aren't very good at this because of the lack of sweat glands. A cool treat can help; take a small dish, put a few treats in or some of your pets food, then fill with water and freeze. Your dog will want to get to the treats or food and the ice will help cool them off and provide some ice cold water also.

Somethings to avoid. Never leave a pet in a parked car. Even with the windows cracked. If the car isn't moving there is NO air flow and temperatures can quickly get too

hot for any animal to be comfortable. If it's hot out just leave your pet at home if they can't go with you once you get to your destination. When you take a walk on hot days be sure the pavement or sidewalks aren't too hot. An easy test is to put your own hand on a similar surface to what you plan to walk on. If you can't keep your hand on the surface for long it is too hot to walk your pet. Their paw pads are extremely sensitive and can burn very easily. First degree burns on paw pads can be very uncomfortable for your pets so check the temperature of surface you plan to use.

DOGGIE SAFETY TIP!

Is Your Dog Safe in the Car?

Your car **HEATS UP FAST...** especially when it's sunny outside.

80% of the temperature rise occurs within the first half hour! So Keep Your Best Pal Safe.

Your Car's Temperature

Outside	Inside	
F°	10 Min	30 Min
70°	89°	104°
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°

SOURCE: Stanford University Study, 2005

WAG SAFELY PetExperts in Dog Safety

During this time of year dogs use less energy because it's so hot, which in turn means they don't need as many calories to maintain a healthy weight. If you notice your dog eating less, don't panic, try feeding less and see what happens. If your dog starts to eat the less amount of food

when they should maintain this until it cools down and the seasons change. If this doesn't help you may need to try a new food, or talk to your vet because something could be going on inside your dog.

We did pick our annual raffle winners, if you didn't receive a call from us save your raffle ticket stubs and use them for 10% off anytime.

Thank you again for keeping us busy! We truly appreciate all of our customers. Enjoy these dog days of summer.

Remember to print this newsletter and bring it into the store and receive **15% OFF** your **ENTIRE** purchase!