

Common Sense Tips for your Pet's Safety in the Summer

- 1). Keep your pet cool, safe and comfortable.
- 2). Keep him in the house or air conditioned shelter as much as possible.
- 3). Keep him hydrated – replenish his non-metal bowl with cool, fresh water many, many times throughout the day.
- 4). Keep visits outside limited to early morning and early/late evening.
- 5). Keep him out of direct sunlight as much as possible.
- 6). Limit his outdoor exercise and exposure to sun.
- 7). Keep him off of concrete and asphalt surfaces during the heat of the day when sun is at its highest intensity.
- 8). Hang out with your pet indoors – playing” fetch”, “hide & seek”, and fun indoor games and activities.
- 9). Check with your vet as to you pet's summertime diet so that it reflects his age, size, weight and amount of activity.
- 10). Never leave your pet shut in a house or kept in a yard while you go away.
- 11). Never force your dog to run in hot, humid weather.
- 12). Keep your pets on heartworm and flea and tick meds not only during the summer but throughout the year.
- 13). Be prepared to deal with wasps, fire ants, bees, hornets. Discuss potential insect or snakebite remedies with your vet proactively so that you are equipped to deal with them if the situation should arise.
- 14). NEVER, ever leave your pet in the car during the heat of the summer.
- 15). Make summer vacation plans keeping your pet in mind. Will he be traveling with you? Staying at home with friends or neighbors? Being boarded at a kennel. Will you require a hotel/motel, etc, that allows pets? Research your itinerary and make plans for your pet long in advance of your proposed trip.