

## **Summer Safety Tips from**

## **Better Days Animal League**

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## **Safety Preparedness**

Natural disasters are in the news almost nightly – even here in South Central Pennsylvania we saw a tornado touch down close to our shelter. In case of severe weather remember to protect your pet. Bring them in and be sure they have current tags and/or microchips in case of separation.

Free pet emergency card on reverse side

## **Summer Safety**

For many people across the country Memorial Day signals the official beginning of summer. Remember these simple tips and help keep your furry family members safe all summer long.

- **NEVER leave your pet or any other animals in a car alone**, even for a "few quick minutes"! The inside of your car can heat up over 120 degrees Fahrenheit in minutes, even with the windows down. If you need to run errands, be sure to leave your furry friends at home.
- Although it can be tempting to let your pets off their leash, don't do it! Summer time brings fireworks and all sorts of other distractions that can startle even the best trained pets and send them running where they could get lost or run into other dangers.
- Make water accessible everywhere! Indoors and out, make sure your pets have access to plenty of fresh water during the summer months. Even the healthiest pets run the risk of dehydration and heatstroke. Remember, if you decide to go on a hike or long walk bring a portable water dish for your special friend too.
- \*\*\*HELPFUL HINT: To stabilize an outside water dish & prevent it from tipping over depriving your pet of water, use a bundt pan secured with a stake through the middle.
- Keep them away from citronella candles, lighter fluid and matches; which are all toxic to pets.
- Keep all pets away from pools, lakes and high water without proper supervision. Not all dogs are great swimmers, and even fewer know how to get out of a pool.
- **Bring them in.** Many animals cannot deal with the heat. Young, elderly, overweight and certain breeds have a hard time regulating their body temperature and can quickly succumb to heatstroke so keep them inside as much as possible. If your animal displays any of the following symptoms they may be suffering from heatstroke and need immediate medical attention.

Heatstroke symptoms: Panting, Refusal to obey commands, Rapid heartbeat, Staring, Anxious Expression, High fever, Vomiting, Collapse.

