

EACH YEAR WE SEE MORE EXTREME WEATHER AND HEAT

It is important to take care of our dogs when the sun is shining, and temperatures heat up. Our dogs cannot always tell us that they are in distress so it's important to protect them from health problems.

DON'T WALK IN EXTREME HEAT

If you really need to walk your dog, it is always better to walk early in the morning or late in the evening. Don't be tempted to walk your dog when the temperature is at its hottest during the day, as it can cause heatstroke. Dogs can die from walking in hot weather as they can suffer heatstroke, even at moderate heat temperatures. Don't overdo the exercise in hot weather and try to stay in the shade.

KEEP YOUR DOG INDOORS

Where possible, keep your dog indoors during the day. Be sure to close the windows, curtains, and shutters to keep the heat out. Use an electric fan to keep the air circulating and to make the rooms as cool as possible. Extreme heat can build up so make sure your dog has plenty of cold, fresh water. Try freezing a chew toy such as a Kong, to keep your dog cool.

CARS CAN KILL YOUR DOG

Never leave your dog alone in a car during hot weather. Even moderate heat outside the car can see temperatures reaching extreme temperatures inside the car. A car acts like an oven, and it can kill your dog quickly. Opening the windows is not sufficient as the heat will still build up quickly.

CHECK ON YOUR DOG

If you are working and your dog is left alone during the day, it is important to check on your dog, especially during hot weather or extreme heat. Arrange for a friend or relative to check on your dog regularly and to ensure the water bowl is full.

HEATSTROKE - KNOW THE SIGNS

When a dog gets too hot and is unable to cool itself by panting, heatstroke can set in.

The signs to look for are:

Heavy panting and difficulty breathing
Excessive drooling
Appears lethargic / drowsy
Collapsed / vomiting / fits

It is important to cool down your dog with cool (not cold) water. Find shade fast, let your dog drink small amounts of water. Once your dog is cool, immediately seek the nearest vet.


For more details, visit the following web page with further links to an RSPCA article on what to do.
<https://www.barkbusters.co.uk/heatstroke>



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