



Warm Weather Safety Tips

You might know that [cold weather poses health risks to your pets](#), but so does warm weather – even on days that don't seem that hot to you. Knowing the risks and being prepared can help keep your pet safe.

Be Prepared

- Talk to your **The Corner Vet** veterinarian about warm weather risks for pets (and [travel safety](#) if you plan to travel with a pet).
- Make sure your pets have unlimited access to fresh water, and access to shade when outside.
- Keep your pet free of [parasites](#) that are more common during warm weather, such as fleas, ticks and [heartworm](#).
- Ask your veterinarian how to recognize signs of heat stress.

Keep Pets at Home

- Leave your pets at home if possible when you need to go out and about.
- Provide different temperature zones within your house for your pet's comfort.
- [Never leave a pet in the car](#), even in the shade or with windows cracked. Cars can overheat quickly to deadly temperatures, even when the weather isn't severe.

Keep Them Comfortable

- If it's hot outside for you, it's even hotter for your pet.
- Take [walks](#), hikes or [runs](#) during the cooler hours of the day.
- Avoid hot surfaces, such as asphalt, that can burn your pet's paws.
- Ask your veterinarian if your pet would benefit from a warm-weather haircut or sunscreen.

Exercising with Your Pet

- Consult **The Corner Vet** veterinarian prior to starting an exercise program for your pet. Overweight pets and short-nosed dog breeds have higher risk of problems with warm-weather exercise.



- Don't walk, run or [hike](#) with a dog during the hottest parts of the day or on particularly warm days.
- Take frequent breaks.
- Bring enough water for both you and your pet.

Garden and Yard Safety

- Make sure the plants in your garden and yard are [safe for pets](#).
- Store lawn fertilizer and insecticides out of reach of your pets.
- Always follow safety instructions on lawn and garden products, particularly the instructions on how long you should keep pets out of the treated areas.
- If you use a lawn service, make sure they are aware that you have pets.
- Avoid using cocoa bean mulch, which contains the same pet toxin found in chocolate.

Signs of Heat Stress

Seek emergency veterinary care if you observe any of these signs:

- Anxiousness
- Excessive panting
- Restlessness
- Excessive drooling
- Unsteadiness
- Abnormal gum and tongue color
- Collapse