

DON'T LOCK ME IN YOUR CAR, PLEASE!

WHY?

DOGS AND CATS SWEAT ONLY THROUGH THEIR PADS AND FEET

Their main method of ridding themselves from heat, is by panting, which is very different from people. Some pets are predisposed to overheating due to breed, illness, age and circumstance.

WHO IS MOST AT RISK?

- Pets who have survived one episode of heatstroke are at increased risk as the area of the brain that responds to heat is forever changed
- Dogs and cats with short and wide faces (Bulldogs: French, American, English; Pugs, Pekinese, and Persian Cats)
- Pets confined to cars, crates, cages
- Pets new to warmer climates
- Overweight Pets
- Pets with long coats
- Elderly Pets
- Pets with heart or breathing conditions
- Pets that exercise in hot weather
- Pets without access to water or shade



AIR

WHEN THE AIR TEMPERATURE HAS BEEN MEASURED AT THIS*

77° F

86° F

87° F



ASPHALT

THE ASPHALT TEMPERATURE WILL BE THIS HOT

125° F

135° F

143° F

AT 125° F, SKIN DAMAGE OCCURS IN 90 SECONDS

AN EGG CAN FRY IN 5 MINUTES AT 133° F

IT WILL BE AWFULLY HOT!

*These temperature correlations represent worst case variables: direct sun, 0 wind, very low humidity and high radian energy.

IF OUTSIDE IS 70° F

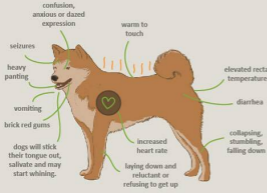
IN 30 MINUTES YOUR CAR WILL BE

104° F

HEATSTROKE IS BAD AS IT CAN LEAD TO



KNOW THE SIGNS OF HEATSTROKE



WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT YOUR PET IS OVERHEATED?



Spend no more than 5 minutes

wetting down your pet all over with cool water (use hose, bucket, bath tub).



Do not delay seeking treatment

Do not take a 'wait and see approach'. Contact MetroVet at 312-583-1921 to let us know you are on your way.



If driving have good airflow

air-conditioning on and windows down (as long as not sitting in traffic and your pet cannot jump out window).



Treatment at MetroVet

will include IV fluids, plasma, oxygen and checking blood/urine tests to determine if organ damage has occurred.

DURING THE WARMER SEASONS

NEVER LEAVE YOUR PET IN YOUR CAR

even in the shade with the windows cracked or in a stuffy room.

HAVE READY ACCESS TO COOL, FRESH WATER

Take a bottle of water with you when walking your pet. Leave an extra bowl of water in case one gets knocked over. Add ice cubes to water to make 'extra' cool.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE AIR CONDITIONING

use fans to increase air circulation. Open, screened windows are helpful, but make sure screens are secure and pets cannot push through them.

DON'T BRING YOUR PET IF...

your car does not have air conditioning or is poorly ventilated.

WALKS SHOULD BE AT DAWN AND DUSK

(before 8a and after 6p). Limit walks during the middle of the day.

DON'T ALLOW YOUR PET TO EXERCISE EXCESSIVELY

Many dogs will continue to play until they suffer exhaustion.

BRUSH YOUR PETS REGULARLY

Some cats and dogs also benefit from 'lion cuts', but don't cut them too short as this may cause sunburn when outside.

LIMIT TIME ON ASPHALT

as temperatures can be very hot.

BEFORE TAKING YOUR PET TO WALK

Press the back of your hand firmly against the asphalt for 7 seconds to verify it will be comfortable for your dog.

