HOT WEATHER SAFETY TIPS FOR PETS

We all love spending the long, sunny days of summer outdoors with our furry companions, but being overeager in hot weather can be dangerous. To prevent your pet from overheating, take these simple precautions:

**Pets can get dehydrated quickly**, so give them plenty of fresh, clean water when it’s hot or humid outdoors. Make sure your pets have a shady place to get out of the sun, be careful not to over-exercise them, and keep them indoors when it’s extremely hot.

**Know the symptoms of overheating in pets**, which include excessive panting or difficulty breathing, increased heart and respiratory rate, drooling, mild weakness, stupor or even collapse. Symptoms can also include seizures, bloody diarrhea and vomit with an elevated body temperature of over 104 degrees.

**Animals with flat faces**, like Pugs and Persian cats, are more susceptible to heat stroke since they cannot pant as effectively. These pets, along with the elderly, the overweight, and those with heart or lung diseases, should be kept cool in air-conditioned rooms as much as possible.

**Never leave your animals alone in a parked vehicle.** Not only can it lead to fatal heat stroke, it is illegal in California!