## https://encrypted-tbn1.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcT_EnbMeFF2xZcLKEQTDTUUkQVW0hDmLPFupRDN7waVK2NPdyLRawSummer News 2014

## Warm-weather precautions:

## Many of the safety concerns we have for ourselves during the hottest months of the year also apply to our pets. Hot weather makes us all a little uncomfortable. But when it's hot for you, it is probably even hotter for your pet — especially if it has a dark coat, a short muzzle (brachycephalic breeds such as Boxers, Bulldogs and Pugs), is in its elder years, or has a tendency to overexert itself. Dogs aren't as efficient at cooling down as we are, since they release most of their body heat through panting and the pads of their feet.

Decrease the risks by letting your pet enjoy the outdoors in summer with these tips:

* Adjust their exercise routine by taking them out for playtime in the early morning and evening hours. This is especially important if your dog is your jogging partner. While you can alter the type of clothing you wear, your dog can't. Many dogs will keep running to stay with you, even if they are suffering due to the heat.
* Be cautious when walking your dog on pavement (which can get very hot and may burn your pet's paws) and at the beach. Running on sand is strenuous and can cause injury to a pet that is out of shape. Start with slower, shorter walks and gradually increase according to your pet's ability and health.
* Provide your pet with plenty of water.
* Try a simple keep-cool tactic such as soaking a bandanna in water and putting it in the freezer before you put it on your dog to wear on a walk.
* Make sure your pet has plenty of access to a shady area to rest when outdoors. During supervised playtime in the yard your pet might enjoy access to a child's wading pool to cool off in.

Perhaps most important, be sure never to leave your pet unsupervised in a car. Even on a mild day a car can heat up quickly and your pet could suffer heatstroke, which could lead to death.

**Signs of heatstroke** Signs of heatstroke include (but are not limited to): excessive panting; rapid breathing; excessive drooling; dark or bright red tongue or gums; staggering; body temperature of 40 degrees or higher (104 F), bloody diarrhoea and/or vomiting.

 If heatstroke is suspected, contact your veterinarian immediately. Hose your pet down or put it into a cold bath.



**Sun protection** Most of us are aware that we need to use sunscreen every day in order to avoid sun damage. The same is true for your pet, especially if it has white fur or pink skin. Limit your dog's sun exposure during the day and apply an animal sunscreen like ‘Filta-Clear’ which is a clear, protective antibacterial sunblock. Sunblock is most important on the ears and nose.

**What’s New!!!**



New Hill’s Ideal Balance:

* Is a natural pet food that provides perfectly balanced nutrition, guaranteed.
* Ideal balance has No corn, wheat or soy.
* Ideal balance is made with natural ingredients you can see right on the bag.
* Hills standard is zero tolerance toward Salmonella



Funny Corner:

There is no snooze button on a cat who wants breakfast.

Cats are like potato chips. You can never have just one.

Anything on the ground is a cat toy. Anything not there yet, will be.