



# AUGUST TIP OF THE MONTH

The dog days of summer are here!!

It does get hot here in our valley, and we have a few ideas to keep your pets cool and comfortable this summer.

We cannot stress enough...Do not leave your pets in the car! Overheating can cause death or brain damage! This time of year as little as 10 minutes in a parked car can lead to heat stroke, permanent brain damage and death. Temperatures inside a car can soar to 160 degrees within minutes, and even a brief stop can stretch into 15 minutes before you know it. Even cracking the windows or parking in the shade offers little protection for your pets, as your vehicle becomes a furnace.

**DON'T MAKE THIS MISTAKE, IT COULD COST YOUR PET'S LIFE!**

Don't force your pet to exercise during the heat of the day. Exercise him in the early morning or late evening when temperatures are cooler.

In really hot weather, don't leave your dog standing on the hot street. Paws can burn since they are not protected by shoes.

If you take your dog on vacation, camping or hiking with you, be prepared! Always have plenty of water available and a shady place where they can cool down.

At home, your pet needs to have fresh, clean water at ALL times. This means inside and outside the house. Keep his water dish clean and free from algae and dirt.

Make sure your dog has adequate shelter. A sturdy dog house is best, or you may choose to build a shelter. Make sure it is covered to allow your dog to get underneath and get out of the weather.

If possible, bring your pet inside during the heat of the day. Your pet will appreciate the cool break from the outdoor temperatures.

Be sensitive to older or short-snouted breeds, such as Bulldogs, Pekingese, Boston Terriers, Lhasa Apsos, and Shih-Tzus. These breeds are already susceptible to upper respiratory problems, and the heat may bring about or make an existing condition worse.

