



YOUR CAT'S HEALTH, OUR PASSION • VOLUME 5, ISSUE 6 • JUNE 2013 NEWSLETTER

KEEP YOUR KITTY COOL IN THE SUMMER HEAT

Summer is on its way, and before we know it, the outdoor temperature will be creeping above 100 degrees.

During the hot summer months, it's important to pay close attention to your pets. They are not well equipped to handle extreme summer temperatures and they are at high risk for heatstroke.

In your home, it's important to turn on fans or air conditioners so your pet has a cool, comfortable place to relax. Close shades and window coverings to minimize direct sunlight.

Offer your kitty plenty of fresh, cool water in multiple locations. This will help prevent dehydration and help your pet regulate their body temperature. Consider adding ice cubes to water bowls to keep the water cool for longer periods of time.

If you have an outdoor feline friend, he or she needs plenty of shade. Pets can get sunburned too, so make sure there's a garage, tree, carport, or other shade structure to escape the hot sun. Overhead water misting systems will keep shaded areas even cooler.

Never leave your pet in a car, even for just a few minutes, even on a mild day. A car can quickly become an oven, reaching temperatures as high as 160 degrees in just minutes. Opening the windows is not enough. Please leave your pet at home if they can't join you inside your destination.

Most importantly, know the signs of heatstroke, which can be deadly. If your pet exhibits any signs of heatstroke, such as rapid panting, a bright red tongue or gums, salivating, increased heartbeat, respiratory distress, or weakness, take emergency action. Move your pet to a cool place, then immediately call us so we can walk you through steps for lowering your pet's body temperature. Once these steps have been taken, you should immediately bring your pet to our office.

These tips will help ensure that your furry family member stays safe and comfortable all summer long.

FELINE FLEA CONTROL

Along with the hot, humid weather come fleas, which thrive in high temperatures.

In addition to giving painful, itchy bites to furry and non-furry family members alike, fleas are carriers of a number of diseases that can affect your kitty—or you. This includes heartworms, tapeworms, Feline Infectious Anemia, and Bartonella (also called Cat Scratch Disease). Some kitties suffer a severe allergic reaction to flea bites, causing them to scratch themselves raw in bitten areas.

Fortunately, there are a number of easy-to-administer monthly topical medications that will help protect your kitty from fleas. During your next visit to see us, please ask for more information.

JUNE SPECIAL OFFER FOR OUR READERS

This month, we have a great special offer for you and your feline family member to help keep fleas under control. When you purchase one 6-pack of Advantage or Advantage Multi topical flea preventative, **you will receive 1 free dose**. Buy two 6-packs and **receive 3 free doses!** Please ask at our front desk for more information.



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