



# 5 Summer Pet Safety Tips

As the weather gets warmer, many of us will be spending more time outdoors in the sun and our dogs are no exception. Below are some tips to keep in mind to protect your dog so you can best enjoy the summer weather together!

by Jessica Lim



## Exercise wisely

When taking your dog out for a walk, try to schedule it for cooler hours of the day and make sure to bring water. Remember that some hard surfaces can get very hot in the sun and it can easily burn their paws.



## Keep them COOL and HYDRATED

If your dog likes to spend most of its day outdoors, remember that they should always have cool fresh drinking water available. And make sure they have a shady space or access to come back indoors when they need a break from the sun.

Here's another tasty tip: try freezing some of their favourite foods or treats and offering them as a way to cool down!



## BUGS, BUGS, BUGS

Many disease-spreading bugs like to come out to play as the weather gets warm, so get your dog up to date on vaccines and parasite control if you can! Consider visiting a veterinarian in the early summer to assess your dog's risk factors and ensure that they will be well-protected for your summer plans.



## Know the signs of HEAT STROKE

When a dog overheats, it can quickly become catastrophic. Some signs of heat stroke to recognize include:

- 1) Rapid and heavy breathing
- 2) Excessive drooling
- 3) Dry and sticky gums
- 4) Seizures and collapse

If you do notice a dog with these signs, move them to a cool, well-ventilated area and begin to gently cool them – try offering ice chips or cool water, or blowing cool air on them from a fan. Seek help by contacting your nearest veterinarian for further assistance.



## Travel safety

If you plan on traveling with your dog, remember to keep the information on any ID tags up to date. It is also important to NEVER leave them alone in a parked vehicle – it can quickly overheat and become deadly, even if in the shade or with windows cracked open.