



Nutrition Excellence!

July 2010

Help your pet beat the heat

Summer is finally here, which means outdoor barbecues, lounging around at the lake or pool and, of course, air conditioning. Things like jumping in the water and spending time in the cooler indoors are ways that we help beat the heat and during the warm summer months, but don't forget to help your pets do the same. The warm weather can be tough on animals, sometimes causing them to overheat, which can lead to heat exhaustion, heat stroke, or even death. Following these tips will help them enjoy the summer months as much as you do.

Fresh, cool air: Proper ventilation is important for your pets at all times, but that can be a little more difficult to maintain in the warm summer months. Never leave pets in a parked car in summer; even with windows partially open, the temperature rises very quickly and can kill a pet in less than 10 minutes! Pets that are at greater risk of overheating – older, overweight, long or thick-coated pets and dogs with short muzzles – should be in an air-conditioned environment during hot weather. If possible, bring outside pets indoors on very hot or humid days.

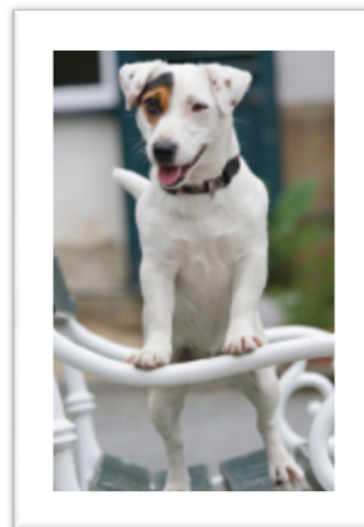
Shade: Make sure your pets have a place out of direct sunlight if they are outside. A doghouse sitting in the sun is not considered shade. If the doghouse is the shady spot, be sure there is some cover over the house or that the dog can seek cover from the sun in another outside area.

Water: Outdoor pets should always have plenty of cool, fresh water to drink and a safe, shaded area to retreat to. Make sure water is kept in a tip-proof bowl.

Play: Avoid vigorous exercise during the heat of the day. Take dogs out in the early morning or evening hours when the heat is not so intense. Stop and let your dog drink often while exercising. Remember, hot asphalt can seriously burn the pads of their feet.

Hygiene: Your pet's coat helps insulate him from the heat as well as protect against sunburn. Clipping or shaving pets too close in an effort to keep them cool can actually result in less protection. If you choose to give your pet a summer cut, keep it to a one-inch length and never shave down to the skin.

Warning Signs: Signs of heat stroke or heat exhaustion may include heavy panting or drooling, unsteadiness, glazed eyes, rapid pulse, a deep red or purple tongue, vomiting and loss of consciousness. If this happens, seek veterinary care immediately.



For more information about the Purina feed products, check out www.purinamills.com or contact your local WFS location.

A PROUD SUPPLIER OF PURINA FEEDS

WFS • PO Box 68 • Truman, MN 56088
507.776.2831 • www.wfsag.com



Purina Mills