

Lake Country Veterinary Care Newsletter



July 2009

Warm Weather is Here!

We would like to discuss pet safety tips for warm weather. Every year this subject is brought to the attention of animal owners and every year it seems to not get through to someone. A car can reach 102 degrees in 10 minutes on the average 85 degree day! If left for over an hour, the temperature could climb to over 125 degrees. Your dog does not need to do errands with you. Leave him/her at home unless you go very early in the morning (brief errands) or after sundown. Always leave a window open, preferably 2, for a cross breeze.

When traveling by car, the best way to transport your pet is in a kennel type carrier. They should have enough room to lie down or stand and turn around. Never feed them when traveling in car, even if the trip is quite lengthy. **DO** freeze water bottles to offer them frequent drinks of fresh water or take a thermos of cold water.

Keep all of your gardening supplies and tools somewhere dogs and cats cannot get them. Your chemicals and fertilizers should be labeled with toxicity cautions as well as waiting period data before letting animals loose in that area. Follow instructions and precautions closely. Cocoa bean mulch may smell really great but can be a problem for dogs that crave that flavor and eat too much. Choose pine, cedar or hemlock if your dogs are allowed in that area.

We usually think of kennel cough as being a disease that is spread within a boarding facility or where many dogs are housed in a small area. In enclosed areas there is often poor air circulation. This is all true, but did you know that dogs can shed bordetella organisms for up to 3 months after infection. Our hospital recommends keeping dogs current on bordetella vaccinations for unexpected situations. Reputable boarding facilities will require your dog have a current kennel cough vaccine for his/her protection.

Our clinic tends to have quite a bit of vehicle traffic. As a courtesy to our other clients, and for the safety of your pet please keep your pet either on a leash (short, like 4 feet) or in a pet carrier. Dogs tend to check out other dogs and you cannot predict another dog's reaction. Accidents happen so quickly that if it can be avoided by something so simple why not ensure it is done. We have small pet carriers available as loners to bring in cats or small dogs and we have courtesy leashes at the front desk.

Finally, wounds on pets should not be ignored. In warm weather, we are all aware of the Wisconsin insect population. It is always a good idea to check your pets routinely

for injuries and open sores. Not only will you help to prevent serious infections, you may also be helping to prevent infestations of unwanted guests! (maggots or worse)

Thank you from the Staff at Lake Country Veterinary Care.

We Appreciate Your Referrals!

*A \$10 Credit will be added to your account for referring others to Lake Country Vet.
Thank you for your support!*

Let's Talk About:

◆ Summer Safety

Be tuff -

*The "dog days" of
summer can be wuff!*



Moon