



Heat Stress

Coming into the warmer months, it is very important to ensure your pets do not overheat. Heat stress can happen quickly and become life threatening.

Unlike humans, dogs and cats do not sweat. They pant to lower their body temperature.

Signs of Heat Stress include:

- Excessive panting
- Salivating
- Vomiting
- Diarrhoea
- Increased heart rate
- Seizures or strange behaviour
- Overly red or purple gums
- Coma or even death within a few hours

If you suspect your pet is suffering from Heat Stress please call our Hospital for advice as soon as possible.

Prevention is the key! Please ensure you provide your pet with:

- Fresh water at all times
- Cool, shaded areas to rest

Avoid:

- Walking or jogging your dog in the hottest part of the day (noon)
- Leaving your dog or cat in your car

NOTE: *Extra care is needed for black or dark coated animals as they do heat up a lot quicker.*



Some Cool Tips!

- Freeze cups of water and put in your pets water bowl
- Fill your Kong with chicken or fresh mince and then freeze it to provide a cool treat for your pet while you are away
- Also using a plastic container or ice cream tub, fill this with a gravy broth (You can add chopped up meat and veggies) and freeze. This is great to give to your dog as you leave for work, a good boredom buster and a nice icy treat!
- Clam shells are also used by pet owners to keep their dogs cool. Fill one side with water for your dog to play or relax in.