

## SUMMER AND HOLIDAY SAFETY

Below are the most frequent holiday emergencies we encounter, and tips for avoiding them.

### **Fear of fireworks/firecrackers/noises causing pet to run away.**

Solution: Keep them leashed and close by, never outside unattended.  
Make sure you pet has ID tags and up to date contact info.  
Microchips are best! Keep an up to date photo handy.

### **Heat stroke/Heat exhaustion**

Solution: Never leave a pet in a parked car *even with the windows cracked*. Temperatures rise above 120 degrees in a hurry.

Walk your dog early in the morning or later in the evening not at peak heat during mid day.

Don't muzzle your dog when it is hot/humid. The only way they lose heat is through panting and evaporation from nose and foot pads.

Don't engage in strenuous activity in the heat (fetch, etc.)

Watch for hot asphalt. This can burn the pads. Walk on grass.

Have a thermometer to take a rectal temp. If over 104.5 degrees, cool your pet by placing feet in cool water, put cool wet towels over head, ears and in groin, offer ice chips or popsicles (Make sure they don't contain Xylitol). **DO NOT SUBMERGE IN COLD WATER OR PACK IN ICE!** Get them to the veterinarian for further treatment or if stable, Continue cooling until temp is below 103. Make sure they drink.

Do not give over the counter meds to pets as some common medicines can be deadly to pets (tylenol and aspirin can kill a cat)

### **MALE CAT acting constipated (crying in litter box, frequent trips)**

This is an **EMERGENCY** and is more often a blocked urinary system even though the cat acts constipated. Get to the veterinary hosp. immediately.

