

Cat Seasonal Safety Tips

1. **Cover the basics.** Secure an up-to-date tag on your pet's collar and make sure to use a leash or a pet crate when headed outdoors. It is important to have your pet microchipped. Be sure that your information is current with the National Registry.
2. **Molten lava cars.** Taking your pet for a ride? Never leave them inside the car, windows up or down, on hot days.
3. **Too hot to handle.** Know the symptoms of overheating in pets, which include excessive panting or difficulty breathing, increased heart and respiratory rate, drooling, mild weakness, stupor or even collapse. Symptoms can also include seizures, bloody diarrhea and vomit along with an elevated body temperature of over 104 degrees.
4. **The more susceptible.** Animals with flat faces, like Persian cats, are more susceptible to heat stroke since they cannot pant as effectively. These pets, along with the elderly, the overweight, and those with heart or lung diseases, should be kept cool in air-conditioned rooms as much as possible.
5. **Hidden away.** During the colder months, always make sure to slam your car door and honk your horn before starting your car. Stray/outdoor cats often seek warmth underneath car hoods.
6. **Protect against parasites.** Fleas, ticks, mosquitoes, ear mites (outdoor cats) and more are everywhere in the summer. Consult with your veterinarian on the best preventatives.
7. **When the temperature falls.** Keep cats indoors. Safe outdoor temps vary for pets by size and breed. Provide adequate shelter if your pet must be outside.

