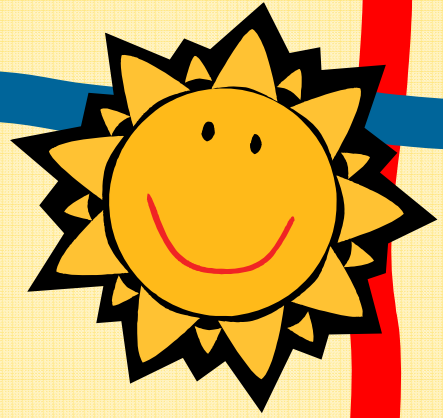


# Animal Care in the Heat of Summer



## A Reminder from Sheriff Joe Arpaio:

### Watering:

Feeding and hydrating your pet is most basic tip, but you should remember these points. Be aware of water hoses left in the Arizona sun. The temperature stored in the hose line is extremely hot. Even in the shade, the water can still be hot. So, before you spray your pet off, or give it any water, let the water run through the line until the temperature is cool enough for you to drink. Hot water is the cause for many injuries to animals, as it is for many children. Always test the water and be careful.

Metal bowls retain heat, as a result many dogs will tip the bowls over in an attempt to stay cool, or just to play. Having good, large heavy bowl for water is important.

Misters and small play pools are a good way to keep your animal cooled down, but be aware of any children that have access to pools.

### Shade:

If your pet is chained up outside, metal chains and collars will absorb the heat and cause injury to the animal. Make sure there is shade that the pet can access, and remember that chains can be tangled or wrapped around things and that may prevent the pet from reaching water, shade, and food.

### Car Rides:

Do not leave animals in vehicles, even if the windows are down. The temperature inside the vehicles can be unbearable and may cause serious injury or death to your pet.

## Pet Exercise:

If you are exercising your animals in the summer, the obvious times to do so are early morning and late evenings. Pavement will stay hot even after the sun is down, so be aware. A good rule of thumb is that if you cannot walk on the pavement or sidewalk in your bare feet, neither can your pet.

Before you attempt to exert them in any way, your pets must be acclimated to the hot climate.

## Pet Grooming:

Shaving the dogs may make the owner feel better and make it easier for humans but that does not mean it is better for the animal. Long hair dogs need their fur for protection from the elements, including the sun.

My last tip is as simple as my first, always consult with your veterinarian with any health issues concerning your pet. And of course, if you witness any animal cruelty, please contact my Animal Cruelty Hotline at 602-876-1681 or e-mail us at: [animal\\_cruelty@mcs.maricopa.gov](mailto:animal_cruelty@mcs.maricopa.gov)



Joe Arpaio  
Maricopa County Sheriff



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