

Protect pets in the heat

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MYFOXNY.COM - New Yorkers are battling the heat, but do not forget about keeping your pets safe from the weather too.



The Central Veterinary Associates offers some tips for pet owners to take care of their pets during the hottest days.

To prevent heat stroke or passing out, do not keep old, overweight, and sick pets outside too long in the hot weather. Pets are more susceptible to heat stroke because of their fur. Some signs to know if your pet is experiencing heat stroke are: body temperature of 104 and 110 degrees, excessive panting, tongue and gums that are sticky and dark or bright red color, staggering, stupor or seizures.

The hottest part of the day is between 12 and 4pm so those would not be good times to take a walk with your pet. It is better to walk in the early morning or evening when the temperature is lower. Also, avoid walking on asphalt or sand because the hot surface can burn them.

Provide your pets with clean, fresh water because keeping your pet hydrated will prevent illness. If you leave your pets at home, keep the air conditioner and any fans on to avoid your pet from being exposed to the hot indoor temperature.

Lastly, do not leave your pets in a car because the temperatures can rise a level that can expose them to very high temperature that can ultimately lead to death.