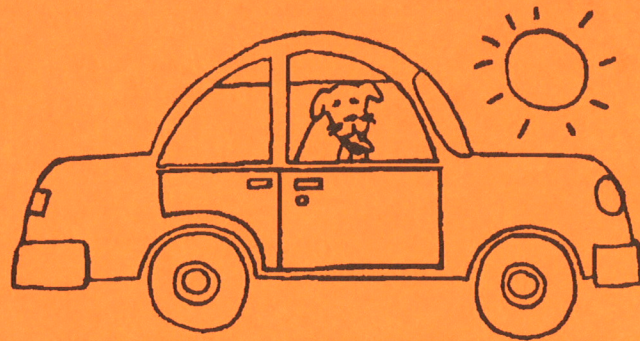


Warning: Hot Cars Kill Pets!



The inside of a car can heat up to 110° F in 10 minutes on an 80° F day - even with the windows slightly open. **Your pet will suffer needlessly and could die when left in your car even on a moderately hot day.**

And consider this: causing an animal to be subjected to unnecessary cruelty or suffering is a felony in Massachusetts and is punishable by imprisonment for up to two and one half years and a fine of \$2,500.

**Your pet would be
safer at home.**

Heat Stress

Symptoms

- Danger signals to watch for in a dog or cat:
 1. heavy panting
 2. rapid breathing
 3. staggering
 4. weakness
- When breathing suddenly becomes quiet with any of these symptoms, the animal may collapse.
- An animal affected by heat-stroke can die in minutes, but proper care may save its life.

Treatment

- Safely and immediately remove the animal from its hot environment, to a safe shaded area if possible.
- Slowly cool the animal by placing it in cool, not cold, water. Reduce body heat gradually.
- If possible, the wind or a fan breeze directed to wet areas of the animal's body will help with cooling.
- Take the distressed pet to a veterinarian as soon as possible. Treatment for dehydration and other serious problems will be necessary.

Intervention

If you see an animal locked in a car on a hot day:

- Locate the owner as quickly as possible. If the car is parked at a store, ask a store employee to page the owner.
- If the owner cannot be found quickly, call the police to free the animal from the car. Take first-aid measures noted above.

mspca

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