

FACT SHEET / PRESS RELEASE
HEAT ADVISORY – WATCH – WARNING
Franklin County and Columbus Animal Response Team

For Immediate Release during a Heat Advisory, Watch or Warning

Central Ohio -- With the heat index expected to rise above 100 degrees, the Franklin County and Columbus Animal Response Team is offering the following tips on caring for pets:

- Keep pets in homes when possible, especially very young, very old and pregnant animals. When in doubt, do not leave your pet outside.
 - Avoid areas of homes that may not have enough ventilation, such as garages or porches.
 - If your pet is normally outdoors, temporarily move them into well shaded areas and off of blacktop or asphalt.
- Water should be checked and changed often so that it does not become too hot to drink. When possible:
 - Provide an oversized water bowl.
 - Secure all water bowls so that they do not get knocked over.
- Make sure chains and cables are not tangled and can not become hooked on debris, keeping the pet from getting to shade or shelter.
- Avoid unneeded exercise for your pets.
- Never leave pets in a parked car in hot weather for any length of time.
- Stay alert and save a life: Keep an eye on all outdoor pets. Make sure that they have enough water and shelter. If you see a pet in distress, give the pet immediate relief by providing water, and then contact animal care agencies at 614-777-7387, 614-462-3400, and/or 614-645-6748.

If you think your animal is victim to heat exhaustion (extreme panting, possible seizures, hot to the touch, non-responsive, body temperature greater than 104°F) immediately remove them from direct sun and apply cool water to the entire body to reduce body temperature to a normal state. Offer small amounts of water and contact your veterinarian for further care.