

## Summer Dog Tips

1. Never, ever leave your dog alone in a car on a warm or a hot day, even if the window is partially open. Within minutes, the temperature can rise to a level that will cause the dog's dehydration and ultimate death.
2. Walk your dog in the early morning or in the evening, but never in the warmest part of the day. Sidewalks can be very hot and painful to your dog's feet. Would you want to walk on the sidewalk, in your bare feet, when the sun is beating on it?
3. When walking your dog or when your dog is in a public place, do not let the dog eat anything off the ground. For example discarded food, cat feces, dog feces, or duck feces.
4. Never let your dog drink out of a lake, stream, gutter, or any dirty water. These waters may contain Giardia, a parasite that causes severe diarrhea, nausea, fever, and anorexia.
5. Carry a water bottle for your dog as well as yourself. Give the dog water frequently.
6. When away from the house, keep a first aid kit for dogs handy. It should contain bandages, disinfectant, and Benadryl for any insect bite that causes swelling.
7. Keep your dog on a leash, except when the dog is in your fenced back yard.
8. Carry a plastic bag and pick up after your dog. Help keep the parks and outdoors clean.
9. Don't feed your dog after a long walk or heavy exercise. Limit the amount of water the dog can drink at this time, because too much water can cause the stomach to bloat.
10. Check for ticks anytime your dog has been on a hike or in thick shrubbery. A dog can encounter ticks in a city park as well as in the mountains. If you find a tick, use tweezers to grab the tick as close to the dog's skin as possible, and then pull it straight out. Do not twist the tick when removing it.
11. If your dog is kept outside during the day, make sure the dog has shade at all times of the day and plenty of water.
12. In your yard, use organic fertilizer and be careful when using weed killer. Dogs like to eat grass and may ingest these.
13. Always have a collar on the dog with all of his/her current identification including the CBR tag, rabies tag, license, and microchip ID tag. To stop the tags from rattling, place all of the tags in an ID pouch or wallet that goes on the collar. If the CBR tag is missing or the lettering is worn and difficult to read, contact CBR for a free replacement.
14. Brush your dog often, clean the ears, and cut toe nails. For beagles, have the vet check the dog's anal glands and express if necessary.
15. Once a year have your dog tested for heartworms. Give the dog preventative medication.
16. Keep your dog's vaccinations current.
17. Feed your dog a good quality food. Don't free feed all day. Keep the dog on a twice a day feeding schedule. Don't you or anyone else give the dog people food or snacks.
18. Try to keep your dog fit, healthy, and trim.