

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE of BOSTON



*****NEWS RELEASE*****

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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With Temperatures Rising, Keep Your Pets Cool *Leaving a Dog in a Parked Hot Car is Unsafe...and Illegal*

With summer-like conditions expected for the rest of this week, the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) wants to remind the public that leaving a dog in a hot car is not only unsafe for the animal, it is now against the law in Massachusetts.

The 2016 passage of S. 2369, dubbed by ARL as “Too Hot for Spot”, gives law enforcement, animal control officers and firefighters the legal right to enter a vehicle and remove any animal where conditions may be detrimental to the animal’s health. This law also allows the public to intervene, however, only after making a reasonable effort to locate the owner and notifying law enforcement.

The statute also allows for civil fines ranging from \$50-500, as well as possible impoundment or loss of ownership of the dog.

Remember, pets don’t sweat like humans do and cannot cool their bodies efficiently in hot temperatures. Even with outside temperatures around 70 degrees, the interior of a car can heat up to well over 100 degrees in a matter of minutes – even with the windows cracked!

Other hot weather tips for animals include:

- If indoors, provide a cool, humidity and temperature controlled room
- If outdoors, find a shady spot with ample air-flow to prevent over-heating
- Hydration is key – Make sure your dog has plenty of cold water
- Limit exercise to the morning or evening hours when temperatures are at their coolest

If you feel that your animal is suffering from a heat-related illness, seek immediate medical attention from a veterinarian.

ABOUT THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON:

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is an unwavering champion for animals in need, committed to keeping them safe and healthy in habitats and homes. Founded in 1899, ARL provides high quality veterinary care, adoption, and rescue services; while also confronting the root causes of animal cruelty and neglect through innovative community programs, police investigations, and public advocacy. In 2016, ARL served more than 17,800 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. We receive no government funding and rely solely on the generosity of individuals to support programs and services that help animals in need.

For more information please visit us online at www.arlboston.org; and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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