

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE of BOSTON



***NEWS RELEASE ***

CONTACT:

Michael DeFina, Media Relations Officer

(617) 293-3530

mdefina@arlboston.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

December 30, 2017

Frigid Temperatures Require Extra Pet Precautions *ARL Reminds Pet Owners to Alter Routines Due to Winter Weather*

With temperatures plummeting to Arctic levels, the Animal Rescue League of Boston wants to remind pet owners that frigid conditions can endanger the well-being, safety, and the lives of the pets we love.

Here are things to keep in mind:

1. Prepare your dog for the elements. If you have a longer coat dog, let it grow out for the winter; it will provide warmth and protection from the cold. For shorter coat dogs, sweaters, coats and booties can go a long way to protect your pooch.
2. Wipe off your dog's paws and stomach. Sidewalks are treated with a number of chemicals. These chemicals can irritate your dog's paws, and can be poisonous if ingested. When coming in from the cold, clean and dry your dog's stomach to keep them healthy!
3. Keep outdoor trips quick. Bathroom breaks or walks, keep it short and sweet and keep your pets indoors as much as possible.
4. Never leave your dog alone in a cold car. Many Massachusetts residents are aware that it's illegal to keep an animal in a hot car, it's ALSO illegal to keep your animal in a cold car. When going out, leave your animals at home.
5. Pay attention to your pet's grooming and health. An animal with a matted coat cannot keep him or herself warm! Long-haired pets especially during heavy periods of shedding, need extra help maintaining a healthy coat. Senior pets also suffer from increased arthritis pain in the cold, so check with your veterinarian on how to keep your pet comfortable.

Bottom line, if it's too cold for you to be outside, it's also too cold for your pet to be outside.

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](#).

###