

MEDIA ADVISORY

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When the Temperature Rises – It's "TOO HOT FOR SPOT"

ARL Saddened by Heat-Related Death of Dog Near Jamaica Pond

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) was saddened to hear about the senseless death of the dog that was found left in a hot car this evening near Jamaica Pond. As the investigation into this horrific incident continues, ARL again wants to remind the public that temperatures inside a vehicle can soar to well over 100 degrees in a matter of minutes when outside temperatures are just 70 degrees.

A hot car is NOT a safe environment for an animal, as tragically seen in tonight's incident.

"A hot vehicle is very dangerous for animals," said Lt. Alan Borgal, ARL Law Enforcement Lead Investigator. "Animals overheat easily, and can quickly succumb to heat-stroke if left in a hot vehicle. The best advice is to either leave your animals at home when it's hot outside."

The link below offers information compiled by ARL as part of the organization's Too Hot for Spot campaign:

http://www.arlboston.org/?s=too+hot+for+spot

With the passage of S. 2369 in November, 2016, it is now illegal in Massachusetts to confine any animal in a vehicle when extreme heat or cold could be dangerous to the health and well-being of the animal. The law also allows Animal Control Officers, law enforcement officer and firefighters the legal right to enter a vehicle to retrieve an animal in danger. Regular citizens can also act to save an animal in danger, however only after making a reasonable effort to locate the

owner, and contacting first responders. Pet owners can be cited up to \$500 and face possible forfeiture of the animal.

ARL does not want this animal's death to be in vain. Because ARL is not directly involved in this investigation, we will not be able to comment on the specifics of this case, however we are at your disposal to delve into the dangers of leaving animals in hot cars, and the legal ramifications of doing so.

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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