

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE of BOSTON



NEWS RELEASE

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Animal Safety Concerns Increase as Heat Wave Begins

ARL urging caution to pet owners

Boston will be flirting with record high temperatures this week and high humidity levels will add to the uncomfortableness and also increase safety concerns for pets, particularly when spending time outdoors. The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) reminds pet owners to be mindful during the heat wave to keep animals cool, hydrated and indoors as much as possible.

Simple things to remember:

- **Prevention is always your best bet.** Whenever possible, leave your pet at home in a low-humidity and temperature-controlled room.
- **If your pet must be outdoors,** find a shady spot with ample air flow to prevent overheating.
- **Hydration.** This is key, so keep a bowl of cool water accessible at all times.
- **NEVER leave your pet alone in a parked car.** Temperatures inside a parked vehicle can skyrocket well over 100 degrees in only a matter of minutes, leaving your pet susceptible to deadly heat stroke.

For those with short-snouted dogs (pugs, bulldogs etc.), it's important to remember that these breeds can suffer from respiratory distress during periods of high humidity.

Hot asphalt can literally burn paw pads, so during hot conditions keep your pet off asphalt surfaces as much as possible.

Finally, all animals need exercise, but during a heat wave, limit your animal's outdoor activities to when temperatures are at their coolest – early morning or dusk.

For more information on how to keep your pet safe and healthy during extreme weather, head to arlboston.org.

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 2017, ARL served more than 18,000 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. We receive no government grants or public 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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