



# WINTER ROUTINE CHECKLIST

Add these items to your daily routine to keep your pet safe in the cold:



## **PREPARE YOUR DOG FOR THE COLD ELEMENTS**

If your dog has a longer coat, let it grow out for the winter; for shorter-coat dogs, sweaters, coats and booties can go a long way to protect your pooch.



## **WIPE OFF YOUR DOG'S PAWS AND STOMACH**

Chemicals used to treat sidewalks can irritate your dog's paws, and can be poisonous if ingested. When coming in from the cold, clean and dry your dog's paws and stomach to keep them healthy!



## **KEEP OUTDOOR TRIPS QUICK**

Bathroom breaks or walks, keep it short and sweet, and keep your pets indoors as much as possible.



## **NEVER LEAVE YOUR DOG ALONE IN A COLD CAR**

Temperatures inside a car will plummet when the engine is turned off. Just like it's illegal in Massachusetts to leave an animal in a hot car, it's also illegal to leave an animal in a car during extreme cold. When going out, leave your animals at home.



## **PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR PET'S GROOMING AND HEALTH**

An animal with a matted coat cannot keep themselves warm! Senior pets also suffer from increased arthritis pain in the cold, so check with your veterinarian on how to keep your pet comfortable.



## **CHECK UNDER THE HOOD**

Cats love to warm up underneath the hood of a car, as the residual heat from the engine burns off. Always knock on the hood of your vehicle and do a quick visual check before starting the engine.

For more winter weather safety tips, visit [arl.boston/WinterPetHealth](http://arl.boston/WinterPetHealth)

