



Best Friends Veterinary Group Newsletter

SUMMER 2014



Hot Weather & Holidaying with Pets

Hot weather and holidays will be enjoyed by many of us this summer, but it is important to consider your pets in your plans both when the weather is warmer as well as if you're planning a trip away, with or without your pets.

Hot Weather Tips

- Move garden hutches and runs to shaded areas, or put a lightweight covering over to provide shade
- Ensure indoor cages, crates and hutches are out of direct sunlight
- Make water available from multiple sources (both indoors and outside) and check throughout the day
- Apply sun block to areas where hair is thin such as tops of ears and noses (it is best to use products designed for children or sensitive skin, and you should always test the cream on a small area first and leave it for 24 hours to ensure your animal is not going to react to it)

- Leave windows open, fans going and air conditioning on inside, especially if you are leaving pets alone for any period of time
- Clean out litter trays and bedding more frequently
- Try to avoid exercising dogs during the midday sun. Instead take them to wooded/shaded areas or take them out in the early morning or late evening when the sun is weaker

General Tips

Regardless of where you are going on holiday, if you are taking your pet/s with you or if someone else will be taking care of them for you while you are away, there are a few things that can help in all circumstances:

- Ensure the contact information on your pets' microchip is up to date
- Favourite toys, beds and blankets should smell of home to accompany your pet, rather than those that have been freshly laundered
- Provide the food they are used to having at home, this will help prevent

fussy eating either while away from home or on your return

- If you know your pet is of a nervous disposition it may be worth buying a pheromone diffuser or discussing specialist food with your Vets that can help to make your pet feel safer
- Plan ahead and ensure you have enough drinking water, food, treats, medication if they are on any and poo bags for your dog →

Special Offers

**25% Off
Royal Canin Obesity
& Satiety Food**
throughout June & July

**Free Dog
Microchipping**
in conjunction with Dogs Trust



- If your dog is lucky enough to be exploring the great outdoors with you on holiday it is advisable to check with your Vet that they are protected from a wide range of parasites and not just fleas. Just as with humans, dogs will also be a tasty treat or great new home for many unwanted bugs that they may not normally come into contact with, but can easily be prevented with a spot on treatment from your local practice.

Preparing for Kennels & Catteries

If your pet is going into kennels or a cattery while you are on holiday you will need to check what is required by that establishment, however most will expect your pet/s to be fully vaccinated (including against Kennel Cough for dogs and Leukaemia for Cats), as well as that they are up to date flea and worming treatments.

If you know you will not be contactable while you're away, ensure you give details to both the kennels and your Vets, for who has authority to authorise treatment in your absence.

Travelling with Your Dog

Whilst many dogs love travelling by car, unfortunately about a third of all dogs get travel sick, which is no fun for anyone. If you know your dog is one of the unlucky ones:

- Give food in plenty of time before travelling
- Open a window to allow air in
- Take regular breaks on long journeys and make fresh water available
- If possible encourage your dog to look out of the front or rear window, this will allow them to fix on a distant object (such as the horizon) and should reduce feelings of nausea
- Speak to your Vet about medication, there is now a non

Surgery Numbers

Billericay	01277 651009	Oakhill	0208 527 0034
Chatteris	01354 692309	Peterborough, Broadway	
Dagenham	0208 595 5818		01733 562904
Holbeach	01406 426222	Rainham	01708 555788
Isle of Dogs	0207 536 7555	Romford	01708 762266
Leicester	01162 517677	South Woodham Ferrers	
March	01354 653435		01245 321717
Mile End	0207 790 4599	Shenfield	01277 221193
Milton Keynes	01908 270144	Whittlesey	01733 208090
Oakham	01572 770011	Yaxley	01733 243000

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drowsy tablet that can be prescribed that your dog may benefit from taking

- Consider use of a pheromone diffuser in the car

You should also consider whether your dog will travel in the car boot, in a crate or on a car seat, and whether a harness is required to keep them safe while on the road.

We hope you've found this information useful, however if you have any questions or queries please feel free to pop in or call your local practice for more advice, and whatever you are doing this summer we hope you and your pet/s have a great time!

Is Your Pet a VIP?

**Healthy Paws Plan
VIP's Receive:**

- Monthly Parasite Protection**
- 6 Monthly Health Checks**
- Annual Vaccinations**
- 10% Off Vets Bills
inc Food**

Our Healthy Paws Plan Members enjoy all this at a discounted price & pay via a monthly direct debit, which can start from as little as £4.95.

All our VIP's benefit from an addition health check six months after their last vaccination, 10% off all services and products purchased from us.

