



**NEVER LEAVE YOUR DOG IN YOUR CAR WHERE THE TEMPERATURE CAN RISE RAPIDLY**

**ON AN 85° DAY, THE TEMPERATURE INSIDE A CAR CAN REACH 102° IN TEN MINUTES**

## FRIDAY FACTS FROM BARRIO DOGS

# ▶ KEEP YOUR PETS SAFE FROM THE SUMMER HEAT

**Don't let your pets get overheated during the hot summer months. Here are some things you can do:**

1. Limit your dog's exercise to the coolest times of the day -- early morning or late evening.
2. **Always test the pavement. If you can't put your palm on the surface for 5 seconds, it's too hot for your dog!**
3. Dogs sweat from their nose and from the pads at the bottom of their paws. They cool themselves by panting and drinking water. Always have fresh, cool water for your pets to drink.
4. Remember, if humidity is high, it's harder for dogs to cool themselves.
5. Know if your pet is overheated. If you see any of the following, get him/her out of the heat and call your vet:
  - Heavy panting.
  - Excessive thirst.
  - Glazed eyes.
  - Vomiting and bloody diarrhea.
  - Bright or dark red tongue, gums.
  - Staggering.
  - Elevated body temperature (104°F and up).
  - Weakness, collapse.

Did you know that light-colored dogs may reflect more sunlight and heat but are prone to sunburn and skin problems related to sun exposure? Also, short-nosed, brachycephalic dogs (bulldogs, pugs, shih tzus, Boston terriers) with short nasal passages have a harder time regulating their body temperature. Other animals that may need special attention or care during hot weather include giant breed dogs, elderly, obese or diabetic dogs and dogs with black or darker colored coats.

**And it goes without saying but bears repeating: never leave your dog in your car during Houston's warm or hot weather!**



To learn more, go to <https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/hot-weather-safety-tips>