



WINTER PET SAFETY TIPS

Five Tips to Keep Dogs and Cats Safe and Comfortable During the Cold Months

With freezing temperatures expected this winter, pets need protection from the cold! The Seattle Humane Society offers five tips to keep pets safe during cold weather:

- ◆ **DRESS APPROPRIATELY**

A dog's coat provides some insulation against the cold, but short-haired dogs may need a coat or sweater for additional warmth while outside.

- ◆ **INCREASE FOOD SUPPLY**

Dogs have to work harder to stay warm when exercising outside. Increasing his food supply, particularly protein, will keep him and his fur in tip-top shape.

- ◆ **BEWARE OF SEASONAL POISONS**

Coolant and antifreeze can spill in the garage or on the street and are lethal poisons for dogs and cats. A dog's paws, legs and stomach should be wiped off when coming in out of the rain, sleet, snow or ice.

- ◆ **OFFER WARM SLEEPING SPOT**

Providing a warm place to sleep, off of the floor and away from drafts, will keep dogs and cats feeling comfortable during the cold months.

- ◆ **SAVE A LIFE BY TAPPING ON YOUR HOOD**

Outdoor cats will climb under the hoods of cars for warmth, so be safe and bang loudly on the car's hood before starting the engine to give any sleeping cats a chance to vacate.

"Pets belong inside with the rest of the family," said Brenda Barnette, chief executive officer for the Seattle Humane Society. "Don't be fooled into thinking that their fur coats will prevent them from getting too cold or suffering from frostbite!"

The Seattle Humane Society was founded in 1897 to bring people and pets together. The Seattle Humane Society does this today through its low-fee spay/neuter surgery program, pet workshops and training, pet food bank, humane teen club, visiting pets program and more. The Seattle Humane Society is located in Bellevue, at 13212 SE Eastgate Way. For directions and more information, visit www.seattlehumane.org or call (425) 641-0080.

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