

Elburn Animal Hospital Newsletter
July, 2011

Welcome

The newsletter for the month of July focuses on summer safety tips for your pets. Pets are becoming more a part of our families than ever before! We make sure they are fed a healthy well balanced diet, visit their vet at least once a year, preferably twice, we even brush their teeth! Many of us take our pets along on family vacations. We are going to cover traveling tips as well as how to accommodate your pet for some of your favorite summer activities. Hope you find his information helpful and are able to have a great fun filled summer with your family and pets! Any questions can be addressed to a member of our staff at (630) 365-9599, or you can contact us via email at 3lburn@sbcglobal.net.

July: Traveling with your pet

Before traveling with your pet, there are certain things you have to prepare for. Following is a list of tips to help you accommodate your pet and make them comfortable and healthy while away from home.

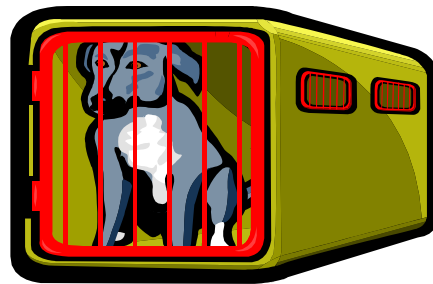
1) Before taking a trip with your pet it is always a good idea to make sure they are current on their vaccines and also for a general check up to make sure they are healthy. If you're flying with your pet, check with the airline to see if they require a health certificate in order for your pet to fly. Most airlines require this and it has to be within 30 days of your departure. If you are flying internationally, you may require a more in depth health report for your pet, so make sure to check out the requirements as soon as you know when you will be leaving.

2) Always be sure your pet has adequate identification tags. Make sure the tags have your name and "current" phone number so you can be reached. It would be a good idea for your pet to have a permanent form of

identification such as a microchip. And make sure to keep your contact information current with the registering company as well.

3) Your pet will need his own backpack or suitcase. You will want to bring all his favorite toys, treats, blankets, bed, etc. You will also need to bring any medications your pet may be taking as well as a first aid kit Also bring a copy of your pets medical records with you.

4) If traveling by car you will need to put your pet in some kind of restraint. There are many options to choose from; including carriers, ensuring it is big enough to allow your pet to stand and also to stretch out, harnesses, booster seats, etc. You will also need to secure any carrier so it won't jump around or fall over. Never let your pet sit on your lap, especially when driving, this can put your life as well as your pets and any passengers or other drivers, at risk.



5) Don't let your dog hang their head out the window. This can cause them to become ill as well as risking the chance of eye injury.

6) Please, never leave your pet alone in a vehicle during warm months. Just a few short minutes are all it takes for the internal temperature of your vehicle to reach a dangerous level.

7) Make frequent stops so your pet can stop for potty breaks and stretch, a nice relaxing walk can help you as well.

8) Always be sure your pet is on a leash and you are in control before opening the vehicle door.

9) Pets can become car sick too. Before leaving and during a car trip, feed your pet small amounts of food and water at a time. Your vet may be able to prescribe something for this as well.

Hope this has been helpful! Preparation is all it takes to make your trip a safe and enjoyable experience for your family and your pets.

Hiking with your pet!

Most dogs like nothing better than to walk in the wilderness with their best buddy. There are certain things you need to be aware of when hiking with your best friend. Always be sure to take an adequate supply of fresh water for you and your dog. Don't let them drink from streams, ponds, or standing water. Although the water might look clear, it can still contain little microorganisms that can make your dog sick. Be sure your buddy stays near you and doesn't run off unsupervised, you don't want him to get into poison oak or ivy, as the oils can rub off his skin onto you. Also, most dogs have no concept of height, you don't want them running off the side of a cliff and risk injuring themselves, or death. Check your dogs' pads from time to time for debris, cuts and burns. High heat with very little shade on rocks or paved walking trails can burn a dog's pad very quickly. Make certain you are using a flea and tick preventative on your dog, and check for ticks at the end of your hike. Be absolutely certain your pet has identifications tags on at all times. Pick up any messes your dog leaves behind.



Swimming Tips

Not all dogs are natural swimmers! Don't ever throw an inexperienced swimmer into the water. Get in the water with your dog and let him/her get used to it gradually. If your dog loves to swim in ponds or rivers, rinse him off when done to avoid uninvited guests living in his fur. Also clean and dry out his ears, as many dogs can develop infections from moisture in their ears, especially floppy eared dogs. If your dog swims in a pool, make sure there is a way for him to conveniently get out, and make him familiar with the exit from the pool.



Thunderstorms

Many dogs are afraid of thunderstorms, and can sense when their owners are anxious. During a storm remain calm, and let your dog stay close to you. Turn on a TV or radio, or play with him to try and distract him. Fix a special safe place or corner to be in where he/she can feel more secure. If you have an extremely anxious dog and nothing helps, you can contact an animal behaviorist for training and conditioning tips.

THE BEHAVIOUR CONNECTION

Creating Healthy Relationships with
Animals through the Science of Behavior
and the Art of Training

July 30th, 2011 – Beecher, IL.

Susan Brown, DVM, will be holding a workshop from 9 am to 5 pm that will help develop a better understanding of how your pet learns, help you solve behavior problems, and learn positive and enriching ways to train your pet. The workshop is for any species of animal, large or small.

If interested please visit

www.behaviorconnection.com for further information.

If you have any questions or concerns, or would like more information, visit our website at www.elburnanimalhospital.com, or give us a call at (630) 365-9599. If you would like to opt out of receiving our newsletter, please send an email to us at 3lburn@sbcglobal.net.

July Special: Mention this ad to receive 5.00 off a nail trim.

Upcoming Event: Annual Open House
It's time once again for our annual open house. This year it will be held on Saturday September 24. We will have games and prizes for all our friends—both the human and the animal variety! Join us for a day to celebrate our clients, our patients, and have some fun.

Do you have an idea for a newsletter? A question you'd like answered about caring for your pet? Email us at 3lburn@sbcglobal.net and let us know! We are always interested in what you have to say, and what you want to know.