

COLD WEATHER

Pet Safety Tips

PROVIDE ADEQUATE FOOD & WATER

Outdoor pets need extra, high-quality food to produce body heat. They also need fresh, tepid water. Ice or snow will not do, because the animal must expend too much body heat to melt it.

CREATE PROPER SHELTER

Outdoor animals need a dry shelter that's large enough to comfortably stand, sit, turn and lie down. Line the bottom with dry, nonabsorbent material. Marsh hay works well; leaves and fabric do not.

CLEAN UP ANTIFREEZE

Leaked or spilled antifreeze (ethylene glycol) is a deadly lure to animals with its sweet taste. Clean it up and, if possible, switch to a less dangerous formulation like propylene glycol.

USE CAUTION WHEN WALKING

Rub petroleum jelly on your pet's paws before heading out for a walk. It protects them from salt and other de-icers. When you return home, wipe the paws, legs and stomach to remove any de-icers or antifreeze.

PROVIDE SPACES FOR SLEEPING

Even indoor animals need a warm place to sleep, off of the floor and away from drafts. This is especially true for old or ill animals.

USE CAUTION WITH CARS

Cats crawl under cars and into engine compartments seeking shelter and warmth. Bang on the hood before starting your car on cold days to startle animals.



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