

Prevent Doggie Dehydration

Follow these tips and tricks this summer to keep your dog happy, hydrated, and healthy.

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Whether lounging in an air-conditioned den or running or playing outdoors, your dog needs ample amounts of fresh water during the hot summer months.

Veterinarians recommend that a dog drink $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 ounce of water per pound of body weight daily. Be sure to increase this amount during the summer to ensure that your dog is being properly hydrated.

Lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, and standing water can harbor dangerous bacteria that may cause your dog to become sick, especially if there is chemical runoff from nearby farm fields, or weed killers or insecticides.

How to check if your dog is dehydrated: Gently pinch the skin on your dog's neck. If the skin doesn't go back to its original spot as you let go, your dog is under-hydrated. If his gums look drier than normal and are discolored, he is probably dehydrated. Excessive or uncontrollable panting.

If you notice signs that indicate your dog may be dehydrated, take him to a veterinarian immediately.

These tips are provided by Handi-Drink. For more information, visit www.handi-drink.com