



VILLAGE *of* CRETE

ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT

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The Village of Crete Animal Control in cooperation with the “My Dog is Cool” campaign would like to make our residents aware of how they can help us to Keep dogs Cool. Attached to this letter is some general information and what to do if you see a dog in a hot car. We would also encourage you, your friends and family to take the “My Dog is Cool” pledge.

What you can do:

- Review the information gathered from mydogiscool.com (First Page)
 - Review “What do I do?”
 - Review the “Signs an animal is in heat-related distress”
- After taking a look at the information take the Cool Dog Pledge! (Instructions attached)

We thank you in advance for your time and your help to keep our dogs cool!

Ryan Allison
Animal Control/ Code Enforcement Officer

Marty Braccio
Animal Control/ Code Enforcement Supervisor

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

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- The number one excuse we hear for leaving a dog in a parked car is “I was only gone for a few minutes.” But did you know that a dog can experience irreversible brain damage and even death in a hot car in as little as 10 to 15 minutes? And cracking those windows doesn’t help!
- According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), leaving windows slightly open does not significantly decrease the rising heat rate. And heat inside a car can rise very quickly! NOAA reported that the temperature inside a vehicle can rise almost 20 degrees in just 10 minutes, rapidly turning your vehicle into a death trap for children or animals left inside. It’s called the Greenhouse Effect.
- According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Association, outside temperatures in the 60s can still cause a car temperature to rise well above 110 degrees (43 Celsius) and this can be life threatening to your dog, who can’t sweat or handle the heat like we humans can.
- It’s no stretch to think of leaving your dog in a parked car the same as leaving him in a microwave oven. When a dog is left in a hot car, he is literally cooking from the inside out.
- In a hot, closed car, your dog’s blood can thicken to the point that his heart will be in severe stress, trying to pump the abnormally thick blood through the blood vessels. The result is stagnation of blood, blood clotting and eventual death of tissues. Highly active cells such as your dog’s brain, intestinal and liver cells are at greatest risk for heat trauma which is why irreversible brain damage is such a concern. A veterinarian who has performed autopsies on dogs that died in hot cars reported that the organs are “soupy.” And damage can happen hours or even days after the animal is removed from the hot car.
- So remember, when you park the car, don’t park the dog, too! Play it cool and leave your dog safe at home – not in a hot car!

Source <http://mydogiscool.com/newsroom/learn-more/>

What Do I Do?

- 1) Note the make/model of the vehicle, license plate number and its specific location. Note a description and condition of the dog(s). Quickly use your smart phone or camera to film the situation, especially if any signs of distress are observed. Also note the time and outside temperature if you have access to that information.
- 2) Call the local animal control agency or police. If you don’t have the local numbers, call 911. Along with getting help, this will create a “record” of the event.
- 3) Some locations, such as malls, amusement parks or casinos, will have on-site security that may be able to help take action.
- 4) Ask clerks at nearby stores/venues to make announcements using the vehicle’s make/model to locate the dog’s guardian.
- 5) Return to the vehicle to monitor the dog’s condition and help responding authorities locate the vehicle.

Do not enter the vehicle or break the window contact 911 immediately!

Signs an animal is in heat-related distress:

- Anxiety
- Wide eyes
- Fervent barking as if in distress
- Intense scratching or digging at windows or doors trying to escape
- Excessive panting with exaggerated long tongue
- Extreme drooling, salivating
- Change in color of the gums (blueish purple, bright red or pale from lack of oxygen)
- Increased heart rate
- Labored or trouble breathing
- Disorientation, stumbling or poor coordination
- Diarrhea or vomiting
- Collapse or loss of consciousness
- Seizure
- Respiratory arrest
- Coma

A dog in distress from heat stroke (a form of hyperthermia) is a medical emergency! Remember minutes matter as dogs can suffer heatstroke, including irreversible damage and even death, in a short amount of time. And by the time you come across the dog, you won't be able to know how long he or she has been in that situation.

Source: <http://mydogiscool.com/help-dogs/help-i-see-a-dog-in-a-hot-car/>



**You didn't leave me in here,
did you?**

The safe choice is to leave your dog at home. The inside of a car can heat up very quickly. When it's 85 degrees outside, the temperature inside a car can soar to 120 degrees in just half an hour, even with the windows cracked. Dogs left in the heat can suffer severe illness, organ damage - or even death - in a matter of minutes.

MyDogIsCool.com



**MY DOG
IS COOL**

Take the “My Dog is Cool” pledge today!

Provided by mydogiscool.com

Now that you're ready to prevent dogs from dying in hot cars, why not start with the most important canine of all... yours! Take the Cool Dog pledge together! Pledge to keep your dog cool you and your dog will be seen in our campaign to prevent dogs from dying in hot cars.

Here's how:

1. Print out the “My Dog is Cool” pledge certificate (Attached)
2. Write your dog's name on the pledge certificate.
3. Take a close-up picture of your dog(s) with the pledge certificate.
4. Email your photo to forms@mydogiscool.com.

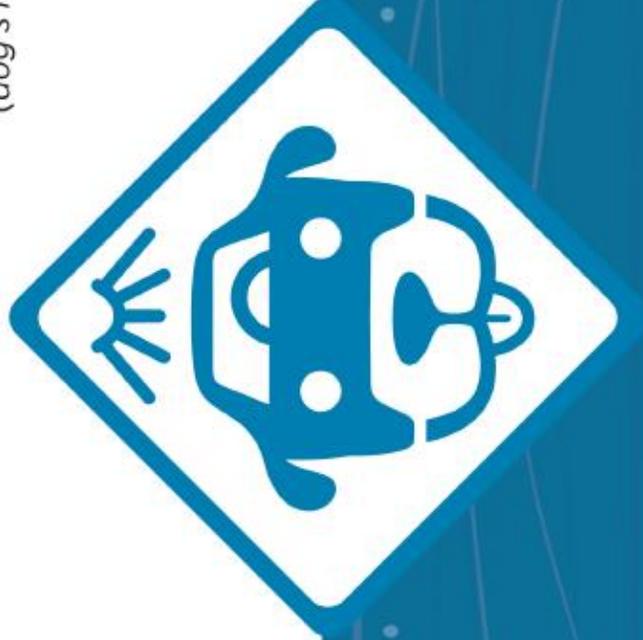
That's it. We'll add your dog's photo to our “Cool Dogs” Gallery where you can find your Cool Dog's photo to share with your friends and family and urge them to take the pledge as well!

Please note: We only publish your dog(s)' picture if your photo contains the My Dog is Cool Pledge certificate. Please do not send previously taken photos of your dog without the certificate.

My Dog Is Cool!

I pledge to **never** leave
_____ in a hot car!

(dog's name)



Learn more at
MyDogsCool.com