



# UNLEASHED

Volume 31 Issue 5 A publication of the Central Ohio Labrador Retriever Club June 2020

## 2020 Meeting/Event Dates

As we wade thru these uncertain times, we are still following a “wait ‘n see” strategy for many of our club functions.

Until the governor makes his June 1 decision regarding gatherings of 50 or more, we are on “pause” . . . regarding meetings and our upcoming specialty.

Everyone continue to stay safe and healthy.

~ Lori

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CHECK OUT CENTRAL OHIO LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB  
ON FACEBOOK

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/575516432535825/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/575516432535825/)

## (COVID-19) If You Have Pets

*From the Center For Disease Control and Prevention (CDC);*

### Key Points

- CDC is aware of a small number of pets worldwide, including cats and dogs, reported external icon to be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, mostly after close contact with people with COVID-19.
- Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people is considered to be low.
- It appears that the virus that causes COVID-19 can spread from people to animals in some situations.
- Treat pets as you would other human family members – do not let pets interact with people or animals outside the household. If a person inside the household becomes sick, isolate that person from everyone else, including pets.
- This is a rapidly evolving situation and information will be updated as it becomes available.

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses. Some coronaviruses cause cold-like illnesses in people, while others cause illness in certain types of animals, such as cattle, camels, and bats. Some coronaviruses, such as canine and feline coronaviruses, infect only animals and do not infect humans.

(continued)

## **Risk of people spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 to pets**

We are still learning about the virus that causes COVID-19, but it appears that it can spread from people to animals in some situations.

CDC is aware of a small number of pets, including dogs and cats, reported to be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, mostly after close contact with people with COVID-19. Only a few of the pets reported to be positive showed signs of illness.

### **What to do if you own pets**

Until we learn more about how this virus affects animals, treat pets as you would other human family members to protect them from a possible infection.

- Do not let pets interact with people or other animals outside the household.
- Keep cats indoors when possible to prevent them from interacting with other animals or people.
- Walk dogs on a leash, maintaining at least 6 feet (2 meters) from other people and animals.
- Avoid dog parks or public places where a large number of people and dogs gather.

There is a small number of animals around the world reported to be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, mostly after having contact with a person with COVID-19. Talk to your veterinarian if your pet gets sick or if you have any concerns about your pet's health.

### **Protect pets if you are sick**

If you are sick with COVID-19 (either suspected or confirmed by a test), you should restrict contact with your pets and other animals, just like you would with people. Until we know more about this virus, people sick with COVID-19 should avoid contact with pets and other animals.

- When possible, have another member of your household care for your pets while you are sick.
- Avoid contact with your pet including, petting, snuggling, being kissed or licked, and sharing food or bedding.
- If you must care for your pet or be around animals while you are sick, wear a cloth face covering and wash your hands before and after you interact with them.

If you are sick with COVID-19 and your pet becomes sick, do not take your pet to the veterinary clinic yourself. Call your veterinarian and let them know you have been sick with COVID-19. Some veterinarians may offer telemedicine consultations or other plans for seeing sick pets. Your veterinarian can evaluate your pet and determine the next steps for your pet's treatment and care.

For more information visit: [What to Do if You are Sick](#).

### **Stay healthy around animals**

In the United States, there is no evidence that animals are playing a significant role in the spread of COVID-19. Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people is considered to be low. However, because all animals can carry germs that can make people sick, it's always a good idea to practice healthy habits around pets and other animals.

Wash your hands after handling animals, their food, waste, or supplies.

Practice good pet hygiene and clean up after pets properly.

*(continued)*

Talk to your veterinarian if you have questions about your pet's health.

Be aware that children 5 years of age and younger, people with weakened immune systems, and people 65 years of age and older are more likely to get sick from germs some animals can carry.

For more information, visit CDC's COVID-19 and Animals, and Healthy Pets, Healthy People website.

*Reprinted from From the Center For Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); **If You Have Pets**; <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/pets.html>*

## **Changes to the Federal Animal Welfare Act**

The US Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has updated the regulations used to enforce the Federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA).

In a letter posted May 12, 2020 the American Kennel Club's Government Relation Department lists this summary of changes:

- Licensees will have to demonstrate compliance with the AWA and demonstrate that animals in their possession are adequately cared for in order to obtain a USDA license.
- Prevents individuals and businesses whose USDA licenses were suspended or revoked from doing any regulated activities for other regulated individuals or businesses.
- Reduces license fees and simplifies the payment process for licensees who maintain full compliance.
- Requires any dealer, exhibitor, or research facility with dogs to maintain a written program of veterinary care (to include regular visits by an attending veterinarian at least once a year) and medical records.
- Requires dogs to have continuously available potable water (unless restricted by an attending veterinarian).

The final rule can be viewed at:

**Animal Welfare; Amendments to Licensing Provisions and to Requirements for Dogs; A Rule by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service on 05/13/2020;**  
<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/05/13/2020-07837/animal-welfare-amendments-to-licensing-provisions-and-to-requirements-for-dogs>

# BBQs, Sun, Water, and Fun - Oh My! Summer Pet Safety for Your Dog.

Authored by [Jason Nicholas, BVetMed \("Dr. J"\)](#)

Updated: May 18, 2020

Come summer, who isn't ready for the sunshine, BBQs, fireworks, trips to the river, lake, beach, and all the other joys that summer brings?

Believe it or not, there is one group that likely isn't ready... your pets!

With a few simple steps you can help prepare your pets and keep them safe this summer. This article will serve as an overview of the summer hazards that commonly sicken, injure, and kill cats and dogs this time of year. Awareness is such an important part of prevention. So please, give this article a good read and be sure to share it with your pet-loving friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers. Here's to a safe and wonderful summer for all – human and pet, alike!

## HEAT

Though that beautiful glowing orb in the sky improves our collective mood and helps to sustain life on our planet, it can lead to a few significant problems for our beloved pets, too.

### Summer Pet Safety Tips:

1. Summer carries dangers from heat, water, toxins, and an increase in injuries.
2. Always consider your pet's safety and comfort.
3. Sometimes it's better to leave your pet safe in the home, rather than exposed to danger.

## Heat Stroke

This is a debilitating, devastating, distressing, and frequently fatal emergency condition that is often 100% preventable. Our pets just aren't as adept at dealing with heat as we are, and cats and dogs everywhere will be put at unintentional risk until everyone is aware of this fact. Check this out for more information on this horrible and easily preventable condition – including what it is, which pets it most often affects, how to recognize and treat it, and (most importantly) how to prevent it.

## Paw Pad Burns

Ever walked barefoot on hot asphalt or sand? Hurts, doesn't it? Though our cats and dogs have thicker paw pads than we have soles, they are still susceptible to pain and damage from walking on hot surfaces. Pets have suffered painful burns from spending too much time on hot asphalt, sand, or other surfaces. Keep this in mind when deciding whether or not to take your dogs with you for a day at the local street fair or for a trip to the beach. If they're likely to be spending a lot of time on such surfaces, consider outfitting them with dog booties or leaving them at home.

## Sunburn and Skin Cancer

Just like us, our cats and dogs are susceptible to developing sunburn and skin cancer. Their most vulnerable areas are typically the top of their muzzle (nose), flaps of their ears, and the underside of their belly (for those who like to sunbathe on their back). Pets with lighter colored coats and those with minimal fur covering are at even higher risk

To minimize your pet's risk consider keeping them indoors during the sunniest and hottest parts of the day and using UV-blocking clothes and pet-safe sunscreen on those who must be out. Check with your veterinarian for recommended pet-safe sunscreens - check out Epi-Pet sunscreen, the only FDA approved sunscreen for dogs (Note: not for use on cats). There are

also lots of options as for UV-blocking, UPF-rated clothing. It's important to do your research when choosing the right clothing, as the Hurtta Sun and Bug Blocker is impregnated with permethrin (great to keep ticks and mosquitos away), but can be an issue if you have cats at home, since cats are very sensitive to pyrethrin and permethrin. Size can also be an issue, so make sure you measure your dog properly when choosing the size.

And if clothing is too constricting for your dog, there are other options of limiting the amount of sun or heat your dog has to endure. Trees are great, but not always accessible, so you may want to consider portable sun shades, patio umbrellas or even shaded pet beds. Even a well-insulated dog house with good air circulation can provide the relief your dog needs.

## **WATER**

More of us are likely to be spending time by the water in the summer and that means that our dogs are likely to be doing so, too. Be aware though that even those dogs who are considered "strong swimmers" can have problems around the water.

### **Drowning and Near-Drowning**

Depending on the composition of the water inhaled – salt vs. fresh vs. chlorinated – even a relatively small amount of aspirated water can cause significant problems for your pooch. Be aware of this both around your backyard pool and when at the beach/lake/river. Some important tips to follow include:

- Watch your dogs closely when they're swimming – be sure to take them out before they become exhausted
- Never let dogs swim unobserved with a young child – either can quickly and unintentionally cause the drowning of the other
- Use lifejackets/PFDs on all dogs, including strong swimmers and those spending time on a boat, kayak, or stand-up paddleboard
- Be aware of and avoid rip currents at the beach and strong currents and strainers when at the river
- Outfit your backyard pool with a secure fence, water surface alarm, and a dog ramp

Here's more information and tips to keep your dog safe and healthy when swimming in rivers, lakes, and oceans.

### **Blue-Green Algae and other Harmful Algal Blooms**

Common on lakes and ponds, sun-loving algae tend to proliferate in the hot summer months. Certain types of algae produce toxins that can easily sicken, or even kill your dog. Check your state's department of health website for algal bloom advisories and learn to recognize what these overgrowths look like.

## **TOXINS**

### **Slug and Snail Baits**

If you live in a damp or low-lying part of the country, your pets are at risk of toxicity from slug and snail baits – even if you don't use them in your own garden. Most of these baits contain the active ingredient Metaldehyde, a highly toxic compound that leads to neuromuscular dysfunction in the pet unfortunate enough to eat it. And eat it pets do!

Many pets are affected by metaldehyde toxicity each year, likely a result of the fact that many

of these products are formulated with molasses to bind them and make them more attractive to the snails and slugs they are designed to kill. Keep your pets inside, on leashes, and out of the garden. Use non-chemical means of preventing or eradicating snails and slugs when possible, and use the safer iron-phosphate containing baits when chemical means are necessary. See [pet-safer snail/slug baits and other alternatives](#).

### **Flea Treatments and Preventatives**

Fleas are nasty little buggers and you should do all that you can to keep them off your pets and out of your home. That said, every summer, pet emergency rooms across the country fill up with cats suffering from [pyrethrin toxicity](#) when inappropriate products or excessive doses are applied. For [safe and effective flea control](#) talk to your veterinarian and see our in-depth flea prevention and control article.

### **Antifreeze**

Many people don't think of antifreeze as a common summer pet hazard, but given that it's in our cars year around (helping to keep the engine cool in the summer), it certainly is. The concerning ingredient in antifreeze/coolant is a compound called ethylene glycol. Even a small amount of ethylene glycol can destroy your pet's kidneys, leading to kidney failure and death if not detected and treated in a timely fashion. Be sure to clean up all spills promptly and store these containers safely. Even with those steps though, the safest things you can do for your pets is to keep them indoors, keep them on a leash, and use a safer propylene glycol based alternative instead.

## **INJURIES**

### **Hit-By-Car**

With more cats and dogs running around outside during the summer months it's no wonder that cases of hit-by-car trauma go up during the warmer months. Be sure to check your yard fences, and keep your dogs on leash and cats indoors.

### **High-Rise Syndrome**

Don't let your cat (or dog) be one of the unfortunate pets to fall from a balcony or open window this summer. Learn about this common summertime emergency and take the simple steps to prevent it. Recognize that, contrary to its name, you and your pets need not live in a skyscraper for your pets to be in danger. Read more about High-Rise Syndrome in pets.

### **Dog Fights & Cat Bites**

Regardless of whether they are inflicted at the local dog park or out around your neighborhood, animal bite wounds aren't only painful; they transmit disease and often require veterinary treatment, too. Don't be fooled by bites that look like "nothing," either. Many a dog and cat has ended up in the ICU and/or required surgery from bite wounds that seemed innocuous. It's the infections that brew and smolder beneath the surface of the skin and in the chest or abdominal cavity that can cause the most unexpected damage. Always have bite wounds promptly evaluated by your veterinarian.

### **Fireworks**

Not only do fireworks cause direct injuries to unfortunate pets, each year they also cause countless pets to run away and get hit by cars. Pets should be nowhere near fireworks displays and should always be kept securely indoors when such festivities are expected. Talk to your veterinarian early if sedation is likely to be needed and look into the Thundershirt and other non-medication tools as well if your pets are particularly stressed by such loud noises. Lastly, don't forget about the importance of microchips in reuniting families with lost pets – have it done and make sure to keep your contact information up-to-date. Please also read our [Your Pets Versus Fireworks: Preventing Lost Pets on the 4th of July](#) and our [Why You SHOULDN'T Use Acepromazine for Cats and Dogs with Fireworks](#)

[or Thunderstorm Fears](#) articles for more information and recommendations on this important topic.

### **Yard Equipment**

Given the potential for direct injury (from lawnmower blades and edging strings) and for indirect injury (from kicked-up sticks, rocks, and other debris), it's best to leave your pets safely indoors when doing work around the yard.

### **BBQ Food and Scraps**

If your pet gets into (or is given) scraps from the grill he's likely to wind up with digestive upset (including a nasty, painful, and expensive case of pancreatitis) or stomach/intestinal obstruction that may ruin your carpet and land him in the hospital. Meat scraps, corn cobs, bones, and skewers are all common causes of digestive problems in pets during the summer. Best to leave your pooch inside during the festivities and make sure all is well cleaned up before letting him back out in the yard.

Oh and here's another one to be (very) careful and aware of... if you have bags of potato chips, pretzels, tortilla chips, or any other snacks or foods in foil-type bags at your BBQ or yard party, be sure to take precautions to prevent your dog from SUFFOCATING in these bags! It happens far more often than most people realize... and it's truly devastating when it happens.

With a little bit of awareness and some easy preventive steps, you and your pets can enjoy a fun and safe summer together.

Reprinted with permission: **Paws & Play Newsletter**; [www.preventivevet.com](http://www.preventivevet.com); <https://www.preventivevet.com/dogs/an-overview-of-summer-pet-safety>

## **Litter Listings**

**GGCH Epoch's Moccasin Joe x  
CH Hunt Club True Colors  
Black puppies born 6/23/20  
Contact: Lori or John Bentine  
614/579-3990  
labwriter@aol.com**



Central Ohio  
Labrador Retriever  
Club

Back-to-Back Specialty Shows

October 24 & 25, 2020\*  
Delaware County Fairgrounds  
Delaware, Ohio

Saturday, October 24

JUDGES: Diane McClurg, Maidstone  
Sweepstakes: Norman Grenier

Sunday, October 25

JUDGES: Cheryl Curtis, Erinhill  
Sweepstakes: Jenna Kemp

Closing Date: October 07, 2020

The Labrador show will be in its own building with plenty of room for seating and crates. There will be lots of parking for cars and RV hook-ups are available. Join us for some great silent auction items and hospitality!

\*Pending AKC Approval\*

Superintendent MB-F, Inc.

[www.infodog.com](http://www.infodog.com)

PH: 336-379-9352

Show Chair – Cora Fleming

PH: 937-564-1385



## General COLRC Information



The **UNLEASHED!** is a publication by and for the members of the **Central Ohio Labrador Retriever Club** and others interested in the betterment of the sport and advancement of cooperative communication within the Labrador community and the dog fancy.

The articles and information contained in this publication have been deemed by the editor to be of interest to our readers but do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or the opinions of the editor or COLRC members. Reader input is actively solicited.

Please address or email all articles, announcements, comments and suggestions to [newsletter@colrc.com](mailto:newsletter@colrc.com). Unleashed is published ten to twelve times per year. Closing for each issue is the 20<sup>th</sup> day of the month prior to publication.

Dues are \$25 annually for a single membership and \$40 for a joint membership. Business cards will be placed on the COLRC website for the year at a cost of \$50 for members and non-members.

Club members who wish to utilize the Litter Listing Column of the newsletter and website will be required to pay \$50 per litter listing unless they have worked at two of our three club events during the course of the year.

**Meetings** General meetings shall take place the first Wednesday of every month unless otherwise noted.

### OFFICERS

President.....	Sally Bell	(Term expires Dec 2021)
Vice President.....	Lori Bentine	(Term expires Dec 2021)
Treasurer.....	Linda Bednarski	(Term expires Dec 2021)
Secretary.....	Brian Tipton	(Term expires Dec 2021)

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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Newsletter.....	Christine Nickerson
Puppy Match.....	Linda Bednarski
Show Chair.....	Cora Fleming
Eye Clinic.....	Jennifer Stotts

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Christine Kofron	(Term expires Dec 2020)
Jennifer Stotts	(Term expires Dec 2020)
Jan Eichenser	(Term expires Dec 2020)
Sue Frazier	(Term expires Dec 2020)