

Dogs in hot cars isn't cool

Three recent separate reports of dogs being left inside vehicles on warm days have prompted Grey County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) to issue a reminder to residents as to the dangers of doing so.

The temperature in a parked car, even in the shade with the windows partly open, can rapidly reach a level that will seriously harm or even kill your pet.

With only hot air to breathe, a dog's normal cooling process ? panting ? doesn't work. A dog can withstand internal body temperatures of 40 degrees Celsius for only a few minutes before heatstroke, brain damage or even death occurs. The older or more vulnerable the animal, the more susceptible they are.

It is against the law to leave a pet unattended in a parked vehicle in a manner that endangers the health or safety of the animal and the owner may face criminal charges.

A hot car is no place for a pet. When it's hot outside, keep your dog at home with access to shade and lots of fresh water.

Learn more at <http://ottawahumane.ca/your-pets/toohot.cfm> or

http://www.dogsafe.ca/blog/2011/8/Dogs_in_Hot_Cars_Understanding_Heat_Stroke_and_the_law