



Heartland News



July 2022

SUMMERTIME IS ADOPTION TIME

Tips For Keeping Your Indoor Cat

Cool This Summer

We've all experienced 100 degree summer days... but for a cat, the heat can be deadly! As cats only sweat from their paws, their methods of cooling are limited. Here are our tips for keeping your furbaby cool and safe this summer!

1. Make them a cool retreat!

Use a cardboard box to create a cool, dark spot for her to retreat to in this hot weather! Line her new cool retreat with cotton or terry towel, place in a quiet spot and add water bottles filled with cool water and ice cubes or dry towels that have been placed in the freezer over night!

2. Leave the aircon running

But make sure cats with no fur or a short coat can escape if it gets too chilly! If you don't have aircon, leave windows open (with fly screens in place of course!) and use fans to promote air circulation and to cool the room down. Keeping the blinds down can also help to prevent the room from heating up in the first place!

3. Cool Treats

Canned cat food frozen in ice cube tray makes an excellent icy treat for our feline friends.

4. Fresh water

Make sure they have access to fresh water at all times. You can do this by giving them chilled water from the fridge or adding a few ice-cubes to their water. Lots of cats love to drink from running water, so also consider investing in a drinking fountain or leave a tap dripping slowly into a bowl for them.

5. Limiting exercise

Active play increases your furbaby's core body temp. So it's best to limit play to the early morning or later afternoon when the outside temperature is lower.

6. Grooming

Daily brushing keeps mats away, which traps body heat. If you have long haired cats with lots of matted hair, speak to your vet about strategic clipping options such as belly clips, which protect the delicate skin but help to keep your cat cool. Most cats won't mind your brushing their coat with a moist towel either!

7. Avoid car trips

Car trips are best avoided if possible and remember to never leave your cat in the car, even if it's only for a short period!

Letters to the Shelter

Dear Penny,

Here is a picture of my handsome boy that I adopted from your shelter. The first time I held him he put his paws around my neck. I knew then that I was his human. He is so loving and brings so much joy to me. His name was Nicos and I changed it to Rainey. He follows me around from room to room like a little puppy. He now weighs 18 pounds, 12 ounces so he is a big boy. You have a beautiful shelter and have very healthy cats.

In friendship,
JoAnn



If you have adopted one of our kitties and would like to share their story, drop us a line, or send us an email at admin@heartlandpetwelfare.org

8. Be aware of the signs of heat stress

Heat stress is an emergency condition that affects the whole body of the furbaby. Because cats are not very good at cooling down their body temperature, they can quickly become overheated. Furbabies affected by heat stress appear distressed and restless > drool large amounts of saliva from the nose and or mouth > becomes unsteady on their feet > collapse and in severe cases, they can die from heat stress! Some furbabies may also vomit and if you are observant, you may notice their pulse is racing and their tongue appears red. If you notice any of the signs of heatstroke in your cat, contact your local vet immediately!

from My Vet Animal Hospital | Oct 7, 2016 |

Metform, a local manufacturer with four plants in our community, held a fun raffle for their employees. The winners of the raffle won vacation days. The money raised was distributed to organizations in the community. Heartland was pleased to be included in the groups receiving the donations and thanks Metform and the employees. Ashley Struve, EHS Representative presented the \$200 to Penny Kreusch.



Why do cats flip for catnip?

It's the oldest trick in the book, right? Give your cat a toy stuffed with catnip and watch it go crazy. It can be very amusing for us to watch, but have you ever wondered what it is about catnip that causes cats to freak out? Catnip is a fragrant plant in the mint family. The potent part of the plant is an oil called "nepetalactone" that can be found in the leaves, stems, and buds. Cats are drawn to the smell, and after just a few sniffs, the oil binds to receptors in their nose. This results in a variety of feline responses ranging from euphoria to drooling to friskiness. Catnip is safe to use with your cat, and the effects don't last too long. Cats usually become numb to the effects a few minutes after being exposed and will need a 2-hour break before they fall under its spell again. Not all cats react to catnip, and kittens don't typically react until they reach 3 to 6 months of age. Cats can lose their susceptibility to catnip when they reach their senior years. Fun Fact: Even large cats like lions and tigers can experience the effects of catnip.



Our intrepid volunteers braved the elements to serve up some grilled goodies at Shaw's Marketplace in Mt. Carroll. Thanks to everyone who stopped by!

Support for Heartland Pet Welfare provided in part by:



DONATION CARD

- Yes, I can volunteer
- \$10 a month Sponsor-a-pet
- \$20 Yearly membership
- \$50 Initial vet check/check-in for one kitty
- \$125 Cat food and litter
- \$200 Shelter supplies
- \$ _____ Other

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