



# Winter Pet Care Tips

## Check your vehicle.

Cats seek warmth on wheel wells and under the hoods of recently driven cars – be sure to check before starting your vehicle. Also watch for antifreeze leaks, as it can be deadly to animals.

## Have access to fresh water.

Just like humans, pets lose more water during the dry winter months. Make sure they always have access to fresh water that isn't subject to freezing.

## Inspect your pet.

Regularly check your pet's skin, coat and feet for cracks or drying. Also keep them off salted roads to avoid chemical burns on their feet.

## Stay inside.

Most pets are not equipped to handle extreme or long exposure to cold. Keep them inside!

## Watch for frostbite.

Know the signs for frostbite: red or swollen areas or skin that is very pale and white. Never use hot water to treat it, only warm water for 15-20 minutes. Use coats or sweaters for short-haired breeds.

## Know the symptoms of hypothermia.

Shivering, low body temperature, stumbling, drowsiness and exhaustion are all signs of hypothermia. Surround the pet in hot water bottles, warm towels, or immerse in room-temperature water – slowly adding warmer water.