



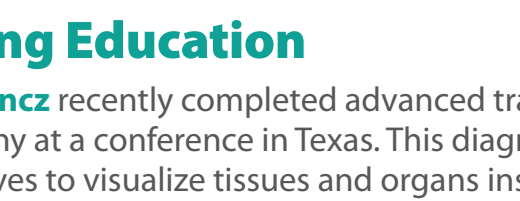
BIG ROCK
VETERINARY HOSPITAL

BIG ROCK TALK

Welcome to Big Rock Talk, a newsletter featuring hospital updates, informative articles, and other topics to share with our pet parents. Our topic for this issue focuses on preventing hyperthermia in dogs. Take a few minutes to enjoy photos of staff pets and let us know how we can improve to make your experience with us the most positive it can be!

Around the Hospital

Big Rock Veterinary Hospital is proud to be fulfilling the requirements to become accredited by the American Animal Hospital Association. Becoming accredited requires and recognizes that our hospital has specific and updated equipment, that all staff members participate in ongoing continuing education, and that stringent levels of gold-standard medicine are followed. Our goal is to always provide the best possible care for your pets, with every interaction and with every visit.



Continuing Education

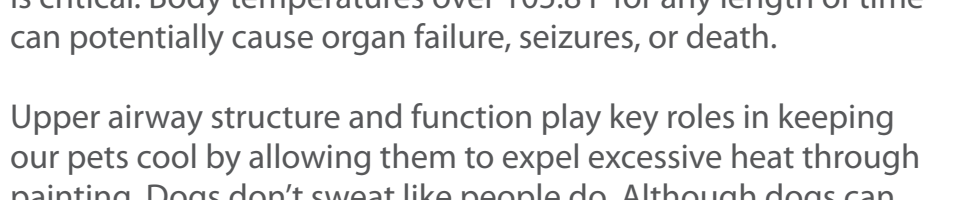
Dr. Caitlyn Goncz recently completed advanced training in ultrasonography at a conference in Texas. This diagnostic tool uses soundwaves to visualize tissues and organs inside of the body and is commonly used when radiographs (x-rays) suggest an abnormality or when greater detail of structure is needed. Ultrasonography is not invasive or painful and is tolerated easily by our pet patients without need for sedation or anesthesia.

Technician Kellee Hunt will be attending an upcoming lecture on Advanced Nutrition which is offered by Hill's Science Diet.

Congratulations to newly licensed technicians Angela Gochneaur and Parker Kiggins for recently passing the National Veterinary Technician Exam!!

Thank you all for your dedication and hard work!

..... FEATURE ARTICLE

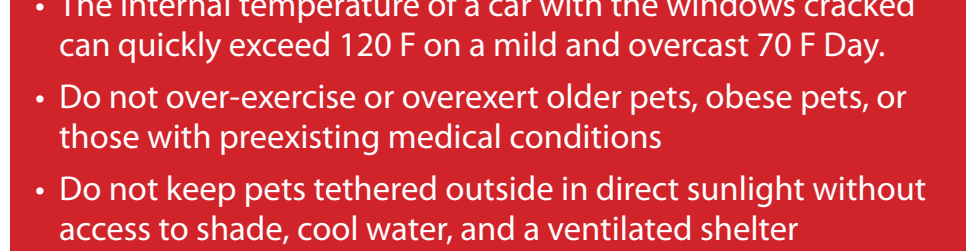


The importance of preventing hyperthermia and keeping our pets cool in warmer climates, temperatures, and areas of high humidity is critical. Body temperatures over 105.8 F for any length of time can potentially cause organ failure, seizures, or death.

Upper airway structure and function play key roles in keeping our pets cool by allowing them to expel excessive heat through panting. Dogs don't sweat like people do. Although dogs can sweat a little bit through their paw pads, it is not a sufficient method to cool them significantly or effectively. Panting is the most efficient method of cooling for dogs. Through panting, dogs exchange hot air from their lungs with cool external air. This speeds the evaporation of water from the tongue, inside of the mouth, and upper respiratory tract resulting in effective thermoregulation.

Brachycephalic, or short-nosed dogs, are especially vulnerable to hyperthermia. Because of their anatomy, breeds such as pugs, bulldogs or boxers usually have ongoing respiratory difficulties which are exacerbated by hot and humid climates or overexertion. As a result of a narrowed and shortened upper respiratory tract, short-nosed dogs are not able to cool themselves quickly. This results in inflammation of the tongue and soft palate, creating a greater opportunity for respiratory obstruction exclusively by having swollen structures in the airway.

Protecting dogs from hyperthermia is easy to do with some simple guidelines. Important considerations in determining if our pets are at risk of overheating should include some common sense checkpoints.



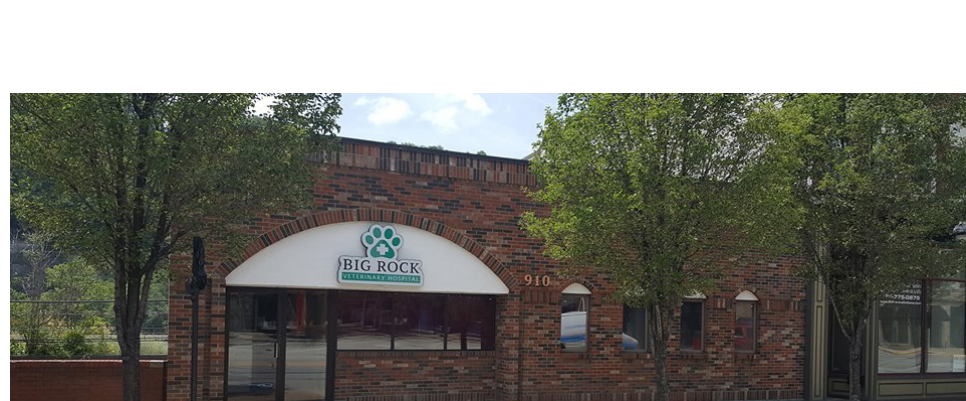
- AVOID HOT PAVEMENT
- AVOID EXERCISE
- AVOID HOT CARS

- Do not walk your pet on pavement that is warm or hot to the touch
- Avoid exercising your pet during the heat of the day or during periods of high humidity. Generally, before sunrise or after sunset during the spring and summer months are the safest times.
- NEVER LEAVE YOUR PET IN A CAR ON A HOT DAY
- The internal temperature of a car with the windows cracked can quickly exceed 120 F on a mild and overcast 70 F Day.
- Do not over-exercise or overexert older pets, obese pets, or those with preexisting medical conditions
- Do not keep pets tethered outside in direct sunlight without access to shade, cool water, and a ventilated shelter

If your dog is exhibiting any signs of overheating, immediately take him into a cool, air-conditioned building and call your veterinarian for advice on how to best proceed. The summer months are meant for enjoying sunshine and outdoor

FUN FACTS

Did you knowthat a cat's nose print is as individual as a fingerprint or a retinal pattern!

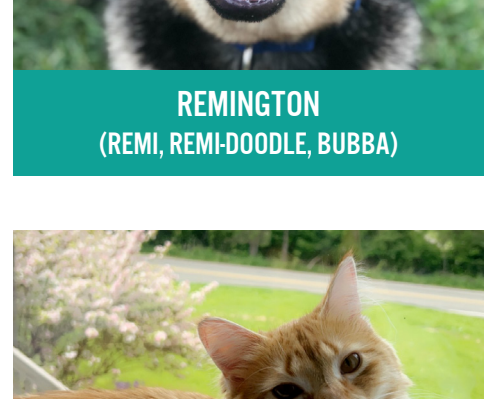


Upcoming Renovations

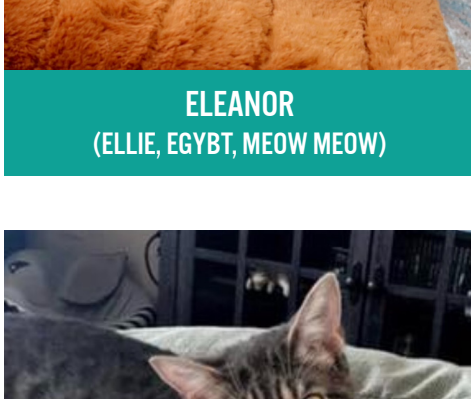
We are excited for construction to begin at Big Rock! The long-awaited hospital renovations include improvements in all departments of the hospital. Surgery and dental suites will be upgraded and a new floor plan for both levels of the hospital will facilitate more efficient workflow and provide additional examination rooms and more comfortable space for our patients requiring hospitalization. We will be continuing our regular hours during construction as the health and welfare of our patients is first and foremost. Stay tuned for updates!

Staff Pets

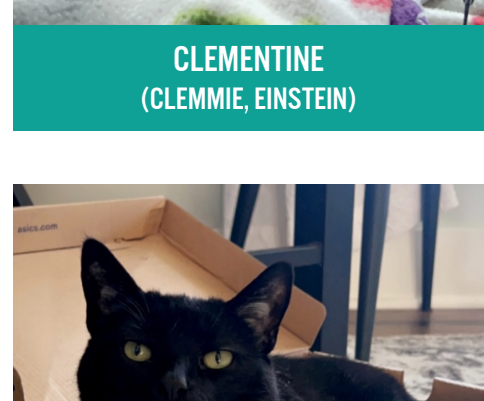
Sed ut perspiciatis, unde omnis iste natus error sit voluptatem accusantium doloremque laudantium, totam rem aperiam eaque ipsa, quae ab illo inventore veritatis et quasi architecto beatae.



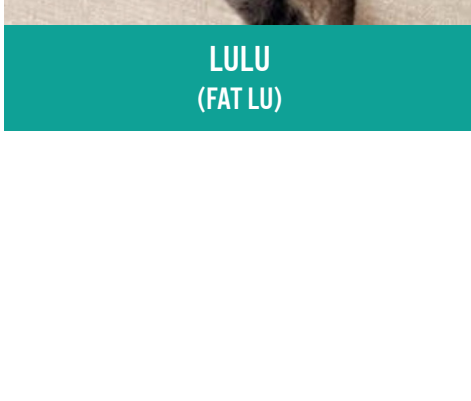
REMINGTON
(REMI, REMI-DOODLE, BUBBA)



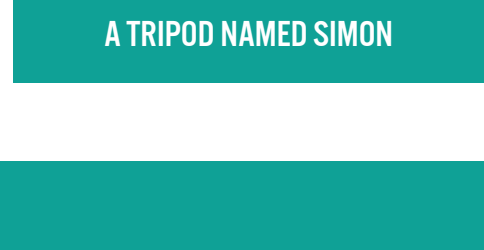
ELEANOR
(ELLIE, EGYBT, MEOW MEOW)



CLEMENTINE
(CLEMMIE, EINSTEIN)



LULU
(FAT LU)



A TRIPOD NAMED SIMON