**KNOW YOUR ANIMAL**

An Animal's size as well as its coat length, density and age reflect on the size of a dog/cat house that will be used to house your pet. Too big of a house and your dog or cat will not be able to retain its body heat in the winter. While a house that is too small will cramp your pet and retain the heat in the summer months. A dog or cat house should be large enough for your pet to be able to move around comfortably in order to settle itself. Small, short haired dogs or short haired dogs of any breed should be clothed in colder temperatures when taken for walks. A variety of boots, sweaters and blankets can be found at your local pet stores or ordered through special pet catalogues.

**TIPS FOR LEAVING A DOG UNATTENDED INSIDE YOUR HOME**

- Secure your dog to only one room in the house.
- Supply your dog with their own toys and chews to keep them occupied.
- Secure your dog in a kennel or travel cage. Make sure it is large enough for the dog to move around and you are able to return within a reasonable amount of time to let the dog outside. You can put water, food, toys and chews in the cage.
- Secure your dog in the garage if it is at a comfortable temperature for your pet, making sure there are no poisons your pet can get into.

For more information visit our website at www.city.whitehorse.yk.ca, or contact us by e-mail at bylaw.services@city.whitehorse.yk.ca, or by phone at 668-8315

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**CITY OF WHITEHORSE BYLAW SERVICES**

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**WEATHER PET TIPS**

To Serve, Protect And Educate.
HEAT STROKE

Is one of the leading causes of animal deaths during the hot summer months. Do not leave your pet unattended in a hot vehicle for an extended period of time. Roll down a window a couple of inches to allow for air circulation. Place a bowl of water in the vehicle in case your pet gets thirsty. The temperature of your vehicle can climb to well over 40 degrees Celsius and become a health threat to your pet.

HYPOTHERMIA

Caused when an animal’s temperature drops causing vital organs to shut down. Cold weather mixed with poor care contributes to your pet’s ability to fight off the cold. If your pet comes in contact with water hypothermia will set in at a faster rate. Cover your pet with a dry blanket or article of your own clothing and transport your pet to a warm place. A well insulated enclosure and an extra ration of food will enable your pet to fight off hypothermia better.

CARE AND COMFORT/ADEQUATE FOR YOUR PET

Please insure that you have a well insulated dog or cat house for your pet, a door cover could be used to help insulate the enclosure and if made from cloth or leather would enable your pet to have easy access.

- Straw may be used for bedding both inside the dog / cat house and outside adding to the comfort of your pet on cold days.
- On warm or hot days the dog or cat house may be used for shade to shelter your pet from the sun or the rain. Always have an adequate amount of water on hand as water helps your pet cool down.
- In the winter give your pet extra food as the food creates heat and allows your pet to winter better.
- In extreme weather conditions bring your pet into a warm area.