



CARING FOR DOGS IN HOT WEATHER

By Kathi Cavanagh
Volunteer Coordinator

Staying indoors, hanging out at the pool, or heading to cooler climates are ways some of us are coping with the soaring temperatures. But what about our furry friends?

Heat exhaustion is common in dogs and can happen to even the healthiest animal. It can happen in a yard, on a walk, and in a car. It is important to know the signs and the steps to prevent it.

Humans sweat to cool off and dogs pant. On hot humid days it is harder for a dog to reduce their body temperature and they may develop heat stroke. Early signs of heat exhaustion/stroke include rapid breathing, heavy panting, and salivation. Other signs are fatigue, muscle tremors, staggering, pale gums, bright red tongue, and vomiting.

Some dogs are more susceptible than others. Those at a higher risk are:

- Young puppies and older dogs
- Overweight dogs
- Large dogs
- Dogs with an existing illness or recovering from illness or surgery

- Dog breeds with short faces - Bulldogs, Shar pei, Boston Terriers, Pugs - have narrow respiratory systems that easily get overwhelmed in hot and humid conditions;
- Double coated breeds such as Chow Chows and Pomeranians
- Dogs bred for cold climates such as Malamutes, Huskies and Newfoundlands

If you should notice signs in a dog start treatment immediately:

- Move the dog to an area where there is cool air circulating, such as an air conditioned room or stand him in front of a fan. The cool circulating air will help your dog to reduce his temperature.
- Cool him with cool/tepid water - either immerse him in a bath, gently hose him or apply cool towels to his body. Importantly do not leave wet towels on your dog and do not use very cold water - both prevent your dog from being able to cool himself.
- Whilst you are cooling your dog down phone your veterinarian or emergency clinic, explain the situation and perform any additional treatment they suggest before taking him to the clinic.

To prevent heat exhaustion/stroke:

- Be aware that the outside temperature can be a lot warmer than that shown on your thermometer -on humid days the relative temperature is much higher
- Some dogs really don't know when to stop - try and keep your dog's activity to a minimum particularly on hot and humid days
- Exercise your dog early in the morning and/or later in the evening when the temperature is cooler
- Ground surfaces get very hot; if you can not walk on the surface barefoot your dog should not either. Wait until before or after the sun goes down or walk only in shaded or grassy surfaces.
- If possible keep your dog indoors during the heat of the day in a well ventilated or air conditioned room
- Never leave a dog in a car, even for a few minutes or even with the car running (it is against the law in Plano to leave an unattended car in a car even if the

CONGRATULATIONS! VOLUNTEERS ANNIVERSARIES

Paula Delzell 4 yrs In Shelter

WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS!

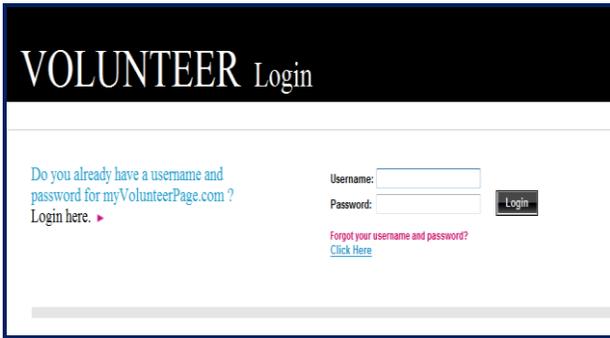
Kim Krantz	Kennel Attendant & Photographer
Nikita Patel	Dog Exerciser & Pups in the Park
Lalit Raina	Dog Exerciser & Pups in the Park
Saudamini Sathe	Dog Exerciser & Pups in the Park
Cristina Shaver	Cat Room Attendant
Katherine Walker	Laundry Attendant
Colleen Wang	Kennel Attendant

car is running and other cities may be the same)

What's New

Volunteer Page Updated

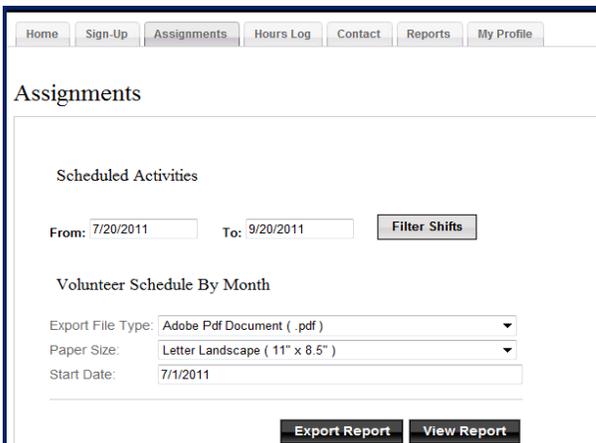
This month we got a new look and feel to our volunteer software.



The functions are the same but there are some title changes. My Activities is now called Sign Up. There are more filter options that will be helpful to those who are trained in multiple job duties. For those of you with one it should remain the same.



A great new feature is the ability to view or print your schedule for the month or quarter. Just click on Assignments, enter the time frame, and click Export or View.



New Doors are In

The renovation of Rosie is complete and the dogs have moved back in. The new frosted glass doors gives each dog a little bit of privacy and has helped keep the barking down.

With any change there is a period of adjustment but so far it has been a smooth transition.



Privacy is great but sometimes you want to see what is going on!

Things to Remember

 Recycling is required! All volunteers should be following the proper recycling procedures when cleaning any areas. Empty food cans should be rinsed before being thrown out. If you are unsure of which bag to use when cleaning ask for assistance first.

 The second Wednesday of every month the shelter closes to the public and volunteers from about 11:30 to 1:00pm (day may vary on rare occasion).

VOLUNTEER VOICES



By Amy Dawkins *Foster Volunteer*

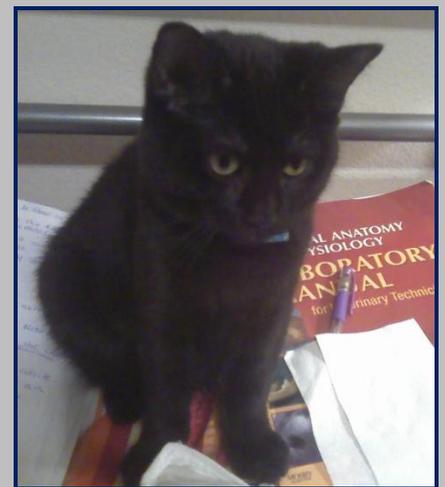
I would just like to send a special thanks to everyone at the Plano Animal Services. One year ago this month, I was given the opportunity to foster a litter of kittens that were found after they were tossed into a dumpster. Within this litter, was a sweet black kitten I named Catolena. Sass that she is, she refused to get to the required 2 pound mark, so I kept her 2 weeks longer than her brothers. By the time that she finally was big enough to go back and get spayed, I had decided I couldn't give her up. My "failed foster" just had her first birthday and I couldn't be more in love with her. She studies, plays, and sleeps with me. She has even gone on to help raise other foster kittens. She is proof that someone's trash is someone else's treasure. I would not have my sweet girl today if she was not saved by the people at the shelter.



Amy's dog Abby helped foster Catolena when she first arrived



Abby and "Cattie" now



Catolena helping with study time.

TIPS AND REMINDERS

Apron Etiquette at the End of a Shift

 Empty all three pockets. Place left over treats in the treat jar, discard any garbage, and remove personal items.

 Inspect the apron-

1. If it is soiled or fragrant drop it in the dirty laundry bin (either in the dish room or in the laundry room).
2. If it is full of hair, use the lint brush (hanging next to the aprons) to remove the hair. Clean the lint brush and replace it on the hook.

 Return the apron to the hook rack.

'SPOT' LIGHT



Melanie Bilicki

In Shelter Volunteer

Melanie has been a volunteer with Plano Animal Services since 2009.

In November 2008 Melanie's husband accepted a job in Plano and they moved here from Michigan.

She started out as a Dog Exerciser and as she became more comfortable took the opportunity to become a Play Group Monitor. Melanie also played a large role in developing the Pups in the Park group walk program and also works as Lead for the group walks.

Volunteering has helped her develop friendships during her transition to Texas and she enjoys the interaction with the officers and other volunteers.

When not at the shelter she enjoys spending time with her husband Jason playing hockey and enjoying their two shelties Jenna 11yrs and Sadie 8yrs.



Bonnie Goodin

Animal Control Officer

Bonnie has been with the City of Plano since 2006 and has bachelors in Animal Science from Texas AM-Commerce.

She grew up with all kinds of animals and has previously worked in boarding facilities and as a vet technician for 3 years.

She enjoys spending time with her husband and son along with their rescued pets, two cats, two dogs, and a snake.

Bonnie's message to you: " I would like to thank all the volunteers for all the work they do. We need all of you but I would like to acknowledge volunteers who work as greeters and adoption counselors. We can get very busy upfront and do not have the time to greet each person and answer their questions in the way we would like to. There has been many times that without the volunteers many people would have not adopted at all or who would not have such a good match."