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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Summer Safety Tips from the Humane Society of Scott County**

(June 23, 2010)--The Humane Society of Scott County wants all animals to be safe during hot summer months. Pets can easily overheat in warmer temperatures. Signs of overheating can be as simple as excessive panting, drooling, or mild weakness. More severe symptoms include seizures, vomiting, and a body temperature of over 104 degrees.

Summer safety tips from the Humane Society of Scott County include:

- Send your pet for a summer check-up at your vet--getting tested for heartworms is vital for your animal's health. Keeping up on your flea and tick routine is also important.
- Always have cool water and shade available for your pet if it must stay outside or travel with you.
- Never leave your pet unattended in a vehicle, even if the windows are rolled down.
- Summer is a great time to take your pet out for exercise, but make sure there is plenty of water available, and that you do not overwork your pet.
- Black asphalt and pavement can be dangerous for your pet's sensitive pads on their paws, make sure you limit the amount of time spent on these surfaces.
- Cutting your pet's hair, no shorter than an inch, will allow your pet to stay cool and help prevent overheating.
- Summer time means a lot of BBQs and gatherings, as well as the Fourth of July. Remember to keep fireworks, used and unused, out of reach of your pet as well as human food and beverages.

Remember- each animal is different. These guidelines are good to follow, but some animals have special needs and require extra care during the summer months.

For more information call Animal Control at 563.388.6655 or visit 2802 W. Central Park, Davenport, IA or [www.hssc.us](http://www.hssc.us).