



WINTER HAZARDS



Freezing Temperatures



Ice Melts & Antifreeze

Automobiles



Snow & Ice



WEST LOOP VETERINARY CARE

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When temperatures drop, pets need special care to stay healthy, safe, and warm. Whether your pet spends lots of time outdoors or goes out for a few quick walks, understand potential hazards and keep the following basic tips in mind:

Prevent frost-bite and hypothermia! During extreme temperatures.

TIPS: Keep time spent outside to a minimum, and keep your pet moving. Try using sweaters/coats and booties.

Antifreeze tastes sweet to pets, but it can be deadly swallowed. Ice melt and salt can dry out the pads on your pet's paws and some chemicals may be toxic.

TIPS: Keep chemicals stored out of reach and wipe paws clean after every walk or outing.

While the inside of your car may be wind protected, automobiles can get ice cold.

TIPS: Don't leave your pet unattended. Rap on the hood or honk before starting your car, as some cats and stray animals will curl up on an engine.

Snow and ice can hurt pet paws. Watch for limping and check for cracked red paw pads.





TIPS: Try using booties. Protect yourself and your pet when slippery, using leashes and/or harnesses that reduce pulling.

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HOW COLD IS TOO COLD?

°F				 KEY
60°	1	1	1	1 No evidence of risk: Have fun outside!
55°	1	1	1	
50°	1	1	1	
45°	2	2	1	2 Risk is unlikely: Have fun outside, but be careful.
40°	3	3	2	
35°	3	3	3	3 Unsafe potential depending on breed. Keep an eye on your pet outdoors.
30°	3	3	3	
25°	4	4	3	
20°	5	4	3	4 Dangerous weather developing. Use caution.
15°	5	4	4	
10°	5	5	5	5 Potentially life-threatening cold. Avoid prolonged outdoor activity.
5°	5	5	5	
0°	5	5	5	

Source: Adapted from The Tufts Animal Care and Condition (TACC) scales.



WE WILL SEE ALL EMERGENCY CASES! Call us immediately so we can assist you. Should you need assistance after hours, please call a 24-hour clinic.

