

# Winter Tips for Pet Safety

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**Keep your pets warm and safe by following these helpful tips:**

- If the weather is too cold for a human, then it is too severe for a pet.
- If dogs are left outside, they should have a draft-free shelter large enough to stand and turn around in, yet small enough to retain body heat. Use a layer of straw or other bedding material to help insulate them against the cold.
- Keep your cats indoors. Cats can freeze in cold weather without shelter.
- Pets who are left outside can suffer from hypothermia and frostbite. Never leave your pet in the car during cold weather. In the winter, a car can act like a refrigerator trapping cold air inside.

**DETROIT ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL**

7401 Chrysler Drive, Detroit, MI 48211

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[www.detroitmi.gov/dacc](http://www.detroitmi.gov/dacc)



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**Keep your pets warm and safe by following these helpful tips:**

- Antifreeze is a deadly poison, but it has a sweet taste that may attract animals. Wipe up any antifreeze spills immediately and keep it, like all household chemicals, out of reach.
- Pets burn extra energy trying to stay warm during the wintertime. Adjust their diet and make sure they stay hydrated to prevent dry chapped skin from the elements.
- Take special care of pets to ensure their paws don't have any ice or salt on them. Check in between toes for snowballs and ice.
- Be prepared! Winter brings extreme weather that can cause power outages. Have an emergency plan and make sure it includes your pets! Have an emergency kit with enough food, water, and medication to last your pets at least five days.

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