

# ANIMAL CONTROL NEWSLETTER

Town of Sterling - August 2015

## Caring for your pets in the hot weather



**NEVER** leave pets in a car! Even with the windows down. The inside of a car can reach temperatures in excess of 150 degrees in a matter of minutes. If possible, pets should be kept indoors during excessive heat.

If keeping a pet outside, make sure it has adequate shelter from the sun and plenty of fresh water at all times.

Plan outside activities with your pets during the cooler parts of the day. Preferably early morning and evening. Limit the outside activity of your pets during the heat of the day.

During hot weather, sidewalks and pavement radiate excessive amounts of heat and can be too hot for the pads of your pet's paws. Consider that if the sidewalk is too hot for you to walk barefoot, it is too hot for your pet to walk on.

Allow access to the coolest part of your home. If you don't have air conditioning or you turn it off while at work, make sure your pet can get to a cool place, such as a basement.

Take extra precautions in hot weather for dogs that are elderly, overweight or snub-nosed. All three have a hard time breathing in the hot and muggy weather.

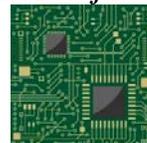
Do not forget about those farm animal and exotic pets. They need to be kept cool also!

## ACO REMINDER

The Animal Control Officer (ACO) of Sterling wants to remind residents that failure to license a dog/dogs in the Town of Sterling may result in a criminal complaint being issued against you at the Clinton District Court. Deadline to license a dog in the Town of Sterling is April 15<sup>th</sup> annually. Court paper work will be filed shortly for any resident in the town of Sterling that has not licensed their dog/dogs for 2015.

## MICRO CHIP INFORMATION

It is very important all dog owners make sure their dogs microchips are registered with complete and updated information. The Sterling ACO does have a micro-chip scanner which reads all chips. Without charge, he will gladly check your animals micro-chip number so you can see if the number is registered properly. Interested persons please call 978-422-7331 and request to speak to the ACO for an appointment. The ACO also wants to remind Sterling residents when getting a micro-chip put in your dog's neck area, make sure you ask your veterinarian if the micro chip is readable by all micro-chip scanners. A good Microchip that is readable by all micro-chip scanners is **Microfindr**.



## ACO INFORMATION ON UPCOMING EVENTS

There is a rabies and micro-chip clinic coming up Saturday, October 3, 2015 at VCA Sterling Animal Hospital formerly known as Sterling Veterinary Clinic. The brand name of chip used is **Microfindr**. These micro-chips are readable by all micro-chip scanners. Having a micro-chip placed in your animals' neck is a great way to keep them safe. Especially if they wander off with no collar on, or get injured and the owner needs to be found quickly. The pet is scanned in the and the chip number will come up. Remember, you do need to register the animal through the micro-chip company with your information when you purchase it!

**Saturday, October 3, 2015, is PUBLIC SAFETY DAY** in the Town of Sterling at the Fire Department from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Come and meet public safety officials and whole lot more.