Fun in the Sun

Summertime in the foothills promises months of scorching sun with daytime temperatures regularly above 90°F. It’s important to keep your pet cool and hydrated during the hot and dry LA summer.

During the heat of the day, it’s best to keep pets indoors in an air-conditioned part of your home. Provide puzzle or interactive toys to keep your dog’s mind active. Cats might enjoy a window perch to watch birds and squirrels in your backyard. If your rabbit must be outdoors, place a frozen two-liter bottle in the hutch to provide cooling.

Dogs and cats may enjoy ice in their water dish on hot days. You might find Fluffy batting the ice cube around with her paws, while Fido is more likely to lap up the water, ice and all. Speaking of frozen items, get creative by freezing dog kibble and water into cool treats for your dog. Recycled yogurt cups or plastic containers work well for this special treat.

(continued on back page)
At the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA we take our mission of compassion and care for all animals to heart. We are proud to be an “Open Door Shelter.”

There is much confusion in the general public, and even within the animal welfare community, about the words “Open Door Shelter.” But for us it is quite simple. We accept any animal in need that comes to us from our nine service cities so they do not fall through the cracks. We do not limit our intake or turn animals away because they are too old, sick, unfriendly, or otherwise unsuited for adoption. PHS is here for its residents and their pets in times of natural emergencies or economic crises. We provide resources like affordable spay and neuter, vaccines, microchipping, and pet lost and found to all segments of the community. Staff is always available to answer calls about neglected and abused animals.

At PHS, we work tirelessly to find homes for the adoptable animals in our care. Every animal is evaluated as an adoption candidate and given the best chance to find a loving home. Our shelter behavior team and volunteers provide playtime and behavioral training to help make our pets even more adoptable. Our veterinary staff is on hand to deliver outstanding care to injured and ill pets. The PHS foster care program places animals that are too young for adoption or in need of extra care in temporary homes to prepare them for adoption. Rescue groups and other shelters help us by welcoming pets when we are limited on kennel space. The PHS mobile outreach unit takes adoptable pets to events around the community.

PHS continues today in the best tradition of an “Open Door Shelter.” It is both our mission and our joy to be able to provide care, compassion and hope for animals in our community.

For the animals,

Carol Kirby
Chairman of the Board of Directors
Pet Food Express in Pasadena is more than just a pet supply store; it’s a hub for pet owners and pet lovers alike. In addition to carrying high-quality food, toys and other supplies for pets, the Pasadena store features a do-it-yourself dog wash, dog training, cat adoption center, and a weekly, walk-in, low-cost vet clinic.

“Pet Food Express loves to be part of the community,” says Carleen Hitchman, manager of the Pasadena store. “We take pride in strengthening the bond between pets and their guardians, and in letting our customers know about important animal-related issues like fostering a pet and trap-neuter-return.”

Since opening in April 2014, Pet Food Express has been a loyal partner to PHS. Hitchman and her staff provide a welcoming environment for PHS to hold offsite adoption events, mobile outreach stops, and, most critical of all, housing for adoptable shelter cats. Since our felines moved into the Pet Food Express Cat Adoption Center in July 2015, over 80 cats have found new homes.

“I am incredibly grateful for our partnership with Pet Food Express,” says Joan Coloma, coordinator of PHS’ offsite cat adoption program. “By housing adoptable cats at the store, we have been able to alleviate space constraints at the shelter during high season.”

In addition to hosting PHS animals and events, Pet Food Express includes PHS as a recipient of its many fundraising initiatives and donation drives throughout the year. This past May, PHS was selected as a beneficiary of the annual Save-a-Kitten fundraiser, a donation drive that also educates customers about kitten season and the need for volunteers to foster young, orphaned kittens.

Pet Food Express goes above and beyond to be an active member of the local animal-loving community. We are proud to feature the Pasadena store as our community hero because their adoption, education and fundraising efforts have impacted the lives of hundreds of animals in a short time. We hope our partnership continues to strengthen and grow.
Baby Bird Basics

If you come across a young bird on its own, your first instinct might be to seek help. However, young birds have the greatest chance of survival by staying with their mother. PHS Wildlife Coordinator Adrianna Elihu answers a few questions about baby birds.

Hatchling? Nestling? Fledgling?
Baby birds have a few different stages of development. For the first few days after birth, baby birds are hatchlings. Birds in this stage lack feathers and belong only in their nests. Birds between 3 and 15 days old are considered nestlings. Nestlings’ feathers are beginning to come in, but aren’t yet fully formed. The final stage of baby bird development is the fledgling stage. In this phase, birds are typically fully feathered but are not quite capable of flight.

Does the bird need help?
It’s very normal for fledglings to be on the ground hopping around – this activity helps them build muscle to prepare for flight. If the bird is safe from other animals or hazards, you don’t need to do anything. If it looks like it might be in danger, you can put the bird in a nearby bush or on a tree limb. Hatchlings and nestlings, however, should still be in their nests. If you can find the nest, put the young bird back in. Otherwise, create a makeshift nest by lining a small plastic tub with dry grass or pine needles and hang it where you found the bird. Put the bird in and wait for its parents to return.

Won’t the parents abandon the bird if I touch it?
Contrary to popular belief, birds will still fully accept their offspring after human contact. However, they might not return to their babies if a human is nearby. After placing a baby bird in its nest, watch from afar. If their parents don’t return after a few hours, contact the Pasadena Humane Society for help.

For more information about what to do when you find a baby bird, visit pasadenahumane.org/babybirds. If the bird appears sick or injured, please seek immediate assistance. Call PHS at 626.792.7151 or contact your local wildlife rehabilitation center.
HAPPY TAILS

Luck be a Ladybird

Ladybird Johnson bounces happily around Carmel Beach, pausing every few steps to look up at her owner running alongside her.

This three-year-old Chinese Shar Pei seems nothing like the shy, fearful dog Lexi Kent-Monning and Lucas Cotterman first met three months earlier at PHS. Ladybird hid from staff in the back of her kennel and cowered at even the sight of a leash.

But convinced she was the right dog for them, Lexi and Lucas signed the adoption papers and tried to bring her to their car. She was so afraid of the leash Lucas had to carry her.

The pair immediately started Ladybird on weekly in-home training sessions, where the quick learner progressed in leaps and bounds. “Her transformation has been truly incredible,” says Lexi. “She now loves her walks so much that she nudges her leash with her nose when she wants to go for a neighborhood stroll.”

Ladybird’s newfound confidence extends beyond just her family. On a recent trip to Carmel Beach, she made friends with humans and dogs alike as she romped around the beach. She even had success running off-leash, something that would have been almost unimaginable just a few months earlier.

And their secret for helping Ladybird transform from wallflower to social butterfly? “With some love, trust, and routine exercise,” Lexi says, “she has come out of her shell remarkably!”

How has your animal companion made a difference in your life? When did you first adopt from PHS? Share your adoption story with us by emailing us at pr@pasadenahumane.org with “Scoop Happy Tails” in the subject line. Your story may be featured in a future issue of Scoop, on our website, or on our social media channels! Include a high resolution photo (at least 3 MB at 300 dpi) and your story (no more than 300 words).🐾
Looking for a fun way to help the animals? Host a community fundraiser and join other generous individuals, businesses, and organizations throughout the Greater Los Angeles area that host a variety of fundraising events to benefit the animals at the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA.

Organize a fun event like a lemonade stand, car wash or even a school bake sale. There are infinite ways to involve the community and help give homeless and abandoned animals a second chance.

Make a difference by learning more about organizing and hosting your own event by visiting www.pasadenahumane.org/communityfundraisers to review our policies and procedures, complete a form and check out our tips and downloads to help make your event a success. Contact Rafael A. Hernandez at 626.792.7151 ext. 164 for more information on how to make a difference in the lives of the animals in our community.

Do you have a car, motorcycle, boat or RV just sitting around taking up space? Why not turn that pile of metal into a pile of cash for the animals at the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA? Donate your vehicle to help the animals even if it’s not running, registered or smog checked.

To get started, just contact our vehicle donation partner, Riteway Charity Services, at 888.250.4490. Their staff will take care of everything from towing and processing the DMV paperwork to selling the vehicle at auction. Proceeds from the vehicle’s sale will support our programs and services and are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Every year PHS helps nearly 12,000 dogs, cats, rabbits, birds and other animals. Your gift will ensure that these lost, injured and homeless animals are given food, shelter and medical care.

If you have further questions about our vehicle donation program, please contact Melissa Fuentes at 626.792.7151 ext. 130.

The Wiggle Waggle Walk is our largest annual fundraiser. Our goal this year is to raise $325,000 to help provide shelter, food, veterinary care and so much more to the nearly 12,000 animals cared for every year at the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA. Funds raised will benefit all animals that come through our open doors, including dogs, cats, rabbits, birds, reptiles, and wildlife.

Participants who raise or give $500 or more will receive VIP status, which includes access to the new and improved VIP Lounge with complimentary breakfast and Bloody Mary bar, free giveaways and much more. There are prizes for fundraising and the top fundraiser, top donor and top team also receive exciting prize packages on stage at the event.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the Walk officially starts at 9 a.m. Participants and their canine companions walk a one or three-mile route around the historic Rose Bowl and then celebrate back at the park with contests, demonstrations, vendor and sponsor booths, food trucks, a scavenger hunt, a bounce house and other fun activities!

To register, please visit www.wigglewagglewalk.org to create your team, join an existing team or participate as an individual. Build your personal fundraising page and tell your story as to why you fundraise for the animals. Invite family, friends, neighbors and co-workers to join in on the fun too. Many companies will even match your donations to PHS if you ask your human resources department.

Can’t make it to the Wiggle Waggle Walk? You can raise funds at home or make a donation to support the animals.

Visit www.wigglewagglewalk.org to find fundraising tips, a complete list of prizes, a full event schedule and more. Need more info? Email events@pasadenahumane.org.
As for outdoor activities, it’s best to walk or hike with your pup in the early morning or late afternoon. Grass and dirt are cooler and less likely to burn your dog’s paw pads than asphalt. If it’s getting too hot, seek out a spot in the shade to give you and your dog a break from the sun.

Recognize the signs of heat stroke. If your pet appears overheated, move them to shade or air conditioning, apply ice packs or cold towels, offer small amounts of cool water and contact a veterinarian immediately.

Still can’t beat the heat? During summer months, the PHS Shelter Shop stocks an array of hot weather pet products, including cooling mats, portable water bowls, and sunscreen.