

Summer Care

Continued

Water — French Bulldogs are not designed to swim. They are heavily fronted and can easily tip forward in deep water. When spending time on the water; be sure your dog wears a quality life vest or flotation device that fits correctly. At home, supervised play in a shallow kiddie pool provides both fun and cooling entertainment for your French Bulldog. Pool, pond, lake or ocean; never leave your French Bulldog unattended in or around water.

Pests — Bees, wasps, fleas, spiders, snakes etc. are more prevalent in summer and can pose a serious threat to your French Bulldog. Venom will very often generate an allergic reaction. Prevention and preparation are your best resources. Talk with your vet about medications to have on hand in the event your dog is exposed to one of these pests.

Fleas transmit parasites, such as tapeworms, and they can cause a severe skin problem. Flea prevention comes in a number of forms and can be given orally or topically.

Heartworm disease is transmitted from dog to dog through mosquitoes. Your best weapon against heartworm is prevention.



FOR MORE INFORMATION
ABOUT THE FRENCH BULLDOG
OR BREEDER REFERRAL SERVICES
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.frenchbulldogclub.org

Summertime Tips in a “Nutshell”

Provide plenty of fresh water while performing any type of outdoor activities.

Restrict activities during the heat of the day.

When playing with other dogs or children outside, monitor activity to prevent overheating.

Never leave your dog in the car unattended.

When boating or near water, make sure your dog wears a fitted life vest and never leave them unattended.

Before treating your lawn or garden with pesticides, read the directions carefully as they relate to pets.

Be aware of all poisonous plants and shrubs in your garden.

Have the Pet Poison Helpline number for your area readily accessible.

Speak with your vet about medications for insect bites and other allergic reactions and have them on hand.

THE FRENCH BULLDOG IN SUMMER



*THEY LOOK TO
YOU TO KEEP
THEM SAFE.*

Produced by the
FBDCA Public Relations
Committee

CAREFUL PLANNING FOR SUMMER ACTIVITIES IS KEY

Summer is a great time to enjoy being outdoors. However; heat, humidity, a multitude of pests and toxic substances, require careful planning to insure the safety of your four-legged friend, on many Summer activities.



Salt water can be toxic to dogs. Many dogs love the ocean and frolicking in the sand, but an excessive intake of salt water can result in severe hypernatremia or salt poisoning. Initial signs include vomiting and diarrhea, but salt poisoning can progress quickly to neurologic signs like walking unsteadily, seizures, progressive depression and brain swelling. Call your vet if your dog is exhibiting these signs. When at a beach with your French Bulldog; always carry fresh drinking water and offer it frequently.

Heat—No matter how well your French Bulldog breathes under normal conditions, they are at risk of heat stroke in the summer months. Walking your dog should take place in the early morning or evening.

Cool coats operate on an evaporation principle and can further help in maintaining tolerable conditions when your dog is outside for short periods of time. Always keep your French Bulldog inside a cooled home during the heat of the day. Never leave your dog in a car unattended. Know the early warning signs of heat stroke: excessive panting, heavy breathing, anxiousness, the skin inside the ears becomes red and warm, unsteady on their feet. If overheated take immediate steps to cool them down. This can be done by wetting them down with cool (not cold) water, placing them in a quiet place such as a crate with fan blowing cool air on them. Take their temperature and call your vet. Overheating is a very dangerous situation.



Plants— Many dogs graze on grass and other plants in the garden and most are non-toxic. Tomato plants, rhubarb leaves, tulip bulbs, Lily of the Valley, Oleander, Kalanchoe and Azaleas can be deadly if ingested in large enough quantities. These are not the only dangerous plants. Your County extension agent will usually have a more extensive list of plants in your area that are harmful.

Mulch— Cocoa bean mulch contains both theobromine and caffeine; it has been known to cause occasional poisoning in dogs. Made from the hulls of cocoa beans it has an enticing chocolate aroma, which attracts dogs.

Vermin bait such as slug, snail, mole, gopher or rodenticides may cause life-threatening symptoms if ingested by your dog. If you believe your dog has consumed vermin bait, contact the **Pet Poison Helpline** <http://www.petpoisonhelpline.com> for more information on treatment.

Fertilizers & Herbicides— read directions carefully before you buy and apply. Most will have specific directions and warning for use with pets.