

## Help Cats Beat the Heat

**Cat owners can keep their cats cool with tips from FURminator Inc. and Donna DeBonis, DVM**

Posted: June 29, 2007, 5 a.m. EDT

With summer temperatures climbing, cat owners need to take special care to keep their cats safe from overheating and other ailments associated with hot weather. Donna DeBonis, DVM, in conjunction with FURminator Inc., offers these tips to help keep cats cool and safe this summer. Never leave your cat in your vehicle. The inside of your car can heat rapidly, causing your cat's body temperature to soar. Make frequent stops when traveling with your cat. Make sure your pet has access to plenty of water during breaks. Groom your cat regularly to remove loose hair and help your cat stay cool. Keep in mind that animals can suffer from sunburn, heat exhaustion and heat stroke—just like humans. To protect your cat's skin, use a pet-approved sunscreen on sensitive areas, such as the nose and tips of the ears. If your cat has outdoor access, make sure it has plenty of water and has access to shade. Kill and repel fleas with a veterinary-recommended flea control product. If you plan to attend a crowded outdoor event, leave your cat at home. The noise and crowds, combined with the heat, can stress your pet.