

VBSPCA

DOG WATER SAFETY PROTECT YOUR PET

Spending time in the water with your pet can be a fun way for them to enjoy the great outdoors, especially during the hot months of summer. However, knowing the basic rules of water safety is a must for all pet parents, especially considering over 5,000 dogs are estimated to drown in pools each year.

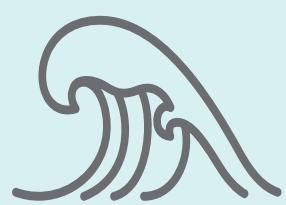
The Most Important Water Safety Rule:

Always Keep An Eye On Pets While Near Water

This includes pools, oceans, lakes, and rivers. Never allow unsupervised swimming as accidents can happen very quickly.

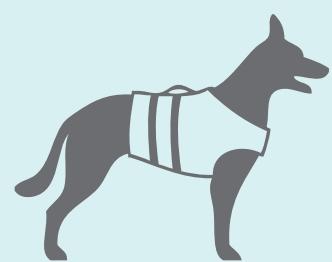


Additional Safety Tips To Keep In Mind:



Water Conditions

Rip currents, undertows, or fast moving currents can be extremely dangerous for canines and humans alike.



Life Jackets

Dog life jackets not only keep your dog afloat, but can also help you spot them in the water and make it easier for you to pull them out.



Take Breaks

Swimming can be very tiring for dogs. Stay close to your pet and make sure they take breaks in the shade.



Wash Up

Rinse off your dog after swim sessions. Salt or pool chemicals can irritate your dog's skin. Additionally, if your dog licks their fur, the salt or pool chemicals could make them sick.



Take Precautions

Your dog should be able to easily get out of the water on their own. Install stairs, a ramp that is made for pets, or a fence to keep them out of the water.



Bring Drinking Water

Lake, river, pool, or ocean water can make your pet sick since it can contain bacteria, algae, parasites, chemicals, or salt.

Not all dogs like to swim or are good swimmers. If your canine companion is more of a land lover, try introducing them to baby pools or spraying them with a hose as alternative outdoor water activities. To learn more visit, vbspca.com/pet-care-resources.