Summer Veterinary Hazards

We all know common summer dangers present for pets, but let's take a look at the human side of how the summer months *might affect the DVM.*

- **Ticks or Tics** - The days grow longer. With all the time you're spending indoors, one of the biggest dangers is finding a few sunlight minutes for yourself. Check yourself for tics at least once daily and try to find some time in the bush.

- **Dehydration** - This is epic. You should have plenty of fresh brew of some kind when the dog days of summer are upon the clinic. Sure, fans and frozen treats work temporarily, but to bring back that healthy balance, check excessive lethargy at the 'um local crafter.

- **Bodies of Water** - Get out and master the dog paddle. Salt water is recommended. Take an umbrella and don't forget the sunscreen. Tweet about it #icechest.

- **Automobiles** - Roadtrip! Bring your pet with.

- **Snakes** - Some actually do have appendages, but I digress. Potential encounters with slithering serpents are usually harmless but protect yourself by keeping a close eye when visiting the tall grass prairie. Just a suggestion.
• **Bee Stings** - Also not limited to the Bzzz-ing kind. When a "hot spot" occurs or you begin to notice irritable behavior, bring the Vet to the outback for R&R.

• **Sidewalks** - Boots are made for walking. Avoid the asphalt, take the pathways and bike routes to set your paws free.

• **Extra Fur** - When a wee bit skew-whiff, book yourself some time at the spa. Grooming is relaxing.

• **Cookouts** - Patio feasting from the barbie is non-toxic and surprisingly pleasing. Invite guests to downsize the table scraps.

There's clarity to be found in a back porch approach to chill. So, downshift, de-stress and slow your roll. It's therapeutic.

**AVMA Washington, DC**

Join the **Advancement Team** and **Dean Risco** at an alumni reception for Cowboys on **Friday, August 2**, hosted in the **George Washington University room**, 7:00 p.m. at **Marriott Marquis Washington** (headquarters hotel for the conference).

Registered Cowboys will receive an email reminder mid-July. Watch your inbox or contact **Sharon** at any time for information.

**It's F r i d a y.** Not everybody understands the importance. But all my favorite people do.