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# On the water safety

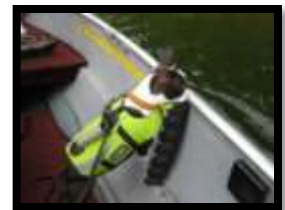
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Summer will be here soon and summer means swimming, boating, and fishing. Taking your dogs along can be a great way for you to spend time with them however it is just as important for them to be safe on the water as it is for you.



The most important thing to remember about safety on the water is that dogs need life jackets just like us. It provides them with a sense of security; keeping them afloat if something should happen such as a leg cramp or fatigue. It is also an easy way for you to get a hold of them quickly

if they need help. It is important to remember that not all dogs are naturally good swimmers and some dogs may not even feel comfortable being in the water. This does not mean that they can't still go boating with you but having a life jacket of them is vital.



Never let your dog out of your sight while swimming because things can happen very quickly. Dogs can tire quickly and may have a hard time getting back to you after a long day of swimming so it is important to watch them. When their fur gets wet from the water their risk of sun burn goes up so protecting them with sunscreen may be beneficial. You can protect your pet with sun screen and if you have questions as to which type is the best please contact your veterinarian. For more information about sunscreen for pets check out this article on Veterinary Partner, <http://www.veterinarypartner.com/Content.plx?P=A&S=0&C=0&A=2367>.

After being in the water it is important to rinse off your dog to remove chlorine and salt from a pool as well as bacteria and dirt from ponds, lakes and rivers. It is also very important to remember that if your dog ingests too much water either from a pool or an open body of water it can cause GI irritation that can lead to vomiting or diarrhea.

If you have any more questions about safety on the water feel free to call Cedar Grove Veterinary Clinic at (920) 668-6212 or send us an e-mail at [info@cgvet.com](mailto:info@cgvet.com).

