

## PATTON VETERINARY HOSPITAL

425 East Broadway  
Red Lion, PA 17356  
717-246-3611  
www.pattonvethospital.com

### Office hours:

Monday–Friday 8am – 8pm  
Saturday 8am – 2pm

Text us at: 717-246-3611



## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

### Meet Emily

Emily joined the PVH family in 2018 as an Extern and was hired shortly after as an Animal Care Attendant. Emily's skills were quickly recognized—she's served as Technician Assistant, Outpatient Technician, and is now one of our Surgical Technicians. Emily graduated from YTI in 2019 and is a Certified Veterinary Technician. This means she had to complete additional training, pass the Veterinary Technician National Exam, and complete Continuing Education requirements to maintain her license.

Emily was originally a history major and wanted to go into the teaching field but ultimately decided

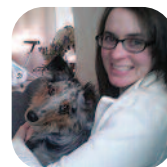
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## Covid-19 Updates

Thank you to all of our clients for being so understanding of our policy changes during the pandemic. We wanted to update you on our current policies and also offer some information about new services that we are offering:

- At this time, we are only allowing one client into the building with your pet's Doctor appointment—please wear a mask. If you are bringing more than one pet, we still ask that only one pet parent comes inside. If you would prefer not to come in or need to stay in the car with other passengers, we are happy to offer curbside care.
- We try our best to greet you when you arrive in the parking lot, if you are not greeted when you arrive, please give us a call at 717-246-3611 to announce your arrival.
- Our wellness appointments are booked ahead for several weeks, please call us before your pet's services are due to schedule an appointment.
- We are allowing a maximum of two clients into the building for end of life appointments only. If you need to schedule this type of appointment, we can give more instructions at the time of your call.
- If you want to avoid the trip, our app will help you receive vet care from the safety of your home (this should not be used in emergency cases and is only eligible for patients that have been seen at our hospital within the past 12 months.) To obtain the app, please go to your App Store on your phone and search "Televet" or follow this link <https://www.gettelevet.com/owners>.
- Need medications? You can order through our online pharmacy and have them delivered to your house by visiting our website at [www.pattonvethospital.com/services/online-pharmacy.html](http://www.pattonvethospital.com/services/online-pharmacy.html)
- You can pay ahead by visiting our website and clicking on the "Make a Payment" button. This works great if you are picking up medications or supplies at the hospital, just make sure you know your total prior to using this feature.

Thanks again for your patience as we all work on adapting to this new "normal."



*By Kelli Swanson*

## Keep Your Pets Safe from Heat Stroke

Heat stroke occurs when the body's temperature increases (typically above 105 F) and cannot properly cool down. A sustained body temperature of 106 or above can cause organ failure and may be fatal.

Dogs and cats lose heat primarily by panting, as they lack sweat glands. Since dogs and cats cannot sweat, they may overheat quickly especially if they have underlying health conditions such as respiratory issues, if they are obese or if they are very young or very old. Breeds with short noses like bulldogs or Persian cats, or breeds with long, thick coats such as the Great Pyrenees are also at increased risk for heat stroke. It doesn't even necessarily need to be that hot outside if the pet is undergoing physical exertion and cannot cool down or if they are confined in a hot space such as a car without adequate ventilation. Working or hunting dogs may be at risk if overworked on hot days.

Early symptoms include excessive panting, drooling, confusion/dazed appearance, staggering and rapid heart rate. As the body temperature continues to climb, more serious signs can occur: vomiting and diarrhea, loss of consciousness, seizures, and the gums and tongue may look bright red or purplish. Kidneys and liver can shut down if the pet cannot cool down.

Cats are less susceptible to heat stroke but they can overheat, especially if trapped in a hot space like a shed or attic without water, in a hot car or in a clothes dryer. Cats have similar symptoms such as open mouth breathing/panting, drooling, vomiting, disorientation and restlessness.

What should you do if you suspect your pet is experiencing heat stroke? You need to cool your pet down, but be careful not to drop his temp too rapidly. Don't use ice packs or feed ice chips. Offer water if the pet is conscious, not vomiting and willing to drink, but don't force water. Wet your pet down with tepid water or place wet towels against the belly and groin areas. Move to a cool, shady place or indoors with a fan or air conditioner. Get your pet to a veterinarian as soon as you can with car windows open or the air conditioner on to keep your pet cool on the ride. Have your pet checked since sustained high body temperatures



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Where Compassion Meets Excellence

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 FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

“Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole.”

– Roger Caras

### EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

*continued from front*

to pursue a career in the Veterinary field and we couldn't be happier to have her on our team. Emily always enjoyed "treating" her stuffed animals as a little girl and her grandfather was a large animal veterinarian, so this field was a natural step for her.

Emily's veterinary interests include feline medicine and anesthesia. She became a first-time cat owner since entering the field and loves watching her cats explore. Over the summer months, we have performed several late-night emergency surgeries and Emily frequently stays to assist with these procedures. Emily mentioned that as she stayed and helped, she didn't mind the late nights and felt a sense of fulfillment by being able to assist. Emily recently assisted with her first C-section patient and described the excitement she felt at being able to welcome new life into the world.

When not working, Emily enjoys quiet time at home reading, playing video games, gardening, and spending time with her family—people and pets. Emily has an infectious smile, upbeat personality, and calm demeanor. We are proud to have her on our team!



By Kelli Swanson

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### HEAT STROKE *continued from front*

could lead to serious consequences like organ failure. Your veterinarian can start IV fluids and continue cooling measures to try to bring that temperature down without cooling too quickly.

How can you prevent heat stroke? Exercise pets early in the morning or late at night when temperatures drop, make sure pets have plenty of access to fresh cold water, limit heavy activity during hot weather, provide shade and make sure cats are not trapped in sheds, barns, etc. without access to water. Enjoy the outdoors with your pets, but be safe and be smart in extremely hot weather to prevent heat stroke.

Check out these resources to learn more:

<https://www.hillspet.com/dog-care/healthcare/heat-exhaustion-in-dogs>

<https://www.preventivevet.com/cats/what-you-should-know-about-heat-stroke-in-cats>



By Dr. Sabrina Walters



## Toxic Toads?

It's a humid summer night. Your dog or cat goes outside, sniffs around in the grass, picks something up then backs away and starts drooling profusely. What happened? If you explore the grass where your pet was nosing around, chances are, you'd find a toad. Has your pet been poisoned? What should you do?

There are three species of toad in Pennsylvania—the spadefoot toad, the Fowler's toad and the Eastern American toad. The Eastern American toad is the most common, and both this species and the Fowler's toad have glands on their heads that secrete a toxin that has a bitter taste. While not deadly, it can cause drooling, vomiting and sometimes pawing at the face or eyes if the pet makes the mistake of trying to pick up a toad with its mouth. Most pets will drop the toad quickly once they get a taste of the toxin but vomiting may occur if the toad is ingested. The toxin is a defense mechanism released by the toad when it feels threatened. The bitter taste makes it less likely that the toad will be eaten.

If your pet has picked up a toad and is drooling, try to rinse out her mouth with water. If your pet is vomiting repeatedly or has swelling of the face or eyes, a trip to the veterinarian is in order. Symptomatic care may be in order, such as anti-nausea drugs, drugs that coat the gastrointestinal tract or eye medications if the substance has caused conjunctivitis.

In some states like California, Florida, New Mexico and southern Texas, the marine toad or cane toad and the Colorado River toad have more potent toxins which can cause tremors, seizures, low heart rate and cardiac arrhythmias which can be fatal within hours, so be aware of this if you travel with your pet.

Lucky for us, most toads our pets may encounter are not deadly, but the toxins emitted when toads are threatened can cause unpleasant symptoms in dogs, and, less commonly, cats. Symptoms can mimic other types of toxins, so, if your pet is drooling or vomiting and you are unsure if he or she has been exposed to a toad, have him or her seen by your veterinarian.

For more information, check out these resources:

<http://www.vetstreet.com/our-pet-experts/beware-toads-that-can-poison-cats-and-dogs>

<https://www.aspc.org/news/trouble-toads-getting-bottom-toxic-threat>



By Dr. Sabrina Walters