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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Date:** July 6, 2021

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## **Public Safety Issues Animal Safety Alert Due to Severe Heat**

**PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – July 6, 2021** – The National Weather Service (NWS) has issued a hazardous weather outlook for Calvert County, due to forecasted high temperatures. Animal owners or custodians are required to provide the following protections until the official NWS severe weather statement expires.

In addition to providing appropriate protection from the weather, animals must be provided with shelter, water, space and access to shade. The following requirements are also in effect:

- Dogs with short snouts (brachiocephalic), such as boxers, Shih-Tzus and pugs, and long hair winter breeds, such as huskies, malamutes and St. Bernards, should have outside time limited to less than 30 minutes at a time to prevent overheating.
- Animals kept outdoors should be monitored at all times and brought into a
  temperature-controlled environment if they begin to show signs of distress such as
  vomiting, diarrhea, excessive drooling, dizziness, disorientation or heavy panting.

Any person in violation of the requirements set forth in this alert may be subject to enforcement, which could include fines up to \$1,000 or 30 days in jail.

To report concerns, citizens may contact the Animal Control Division at 410-535-1600, ext. 2526, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If the office is closed, reports may be made to the non-emergency line at 410-535-3491.

Residents are encouraged to stay informed and prepared in the event of an emergency by visiting <a href="www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/BeAwarePrepare">www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/BeAwarePrepare</a> and signing up for Calvert County ALERT to receive timely information about various emergency and non-emergency situations in the county.

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Updates will appear on the Calvert County Government website, <a href="www.CalvertCountyMd.gov">www.CalvertCountyMd.gov</a>, Facebook page at <a href="www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd">www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd</a> and Comcast channel 6/1070 HD.

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