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# El Paso Animal Services Reminds Residents to Keep Pets Safe During Cold Front

**EL PASO, Texas**— With temperatures expected to dip between 15 and 25 degrees and a chance of snow this week, El Paso Animal Services is urging pet owners to take extra precautions to keep their pets safe with these key tips:

## **Provide Proper Shelter**

Bring pets indoors at night, even if it's just into a garage or laundry room. If pets must stay outdoors, they must have access to adequate shelter with four walls, a roof, and bedding to keep them warm and dry. Position the shelter away from drafts, and ensure pets always have access to fresh, unfrozen water. If tethered, no chain restraints are allowed and they must have access to their shelter and water in compliance with the Safe Outdoor Dogs Act.

## **Extra Care for Vulnerable Pets**

Senior pets, puppies, and short-haired breeds are especially sensitive to cold. Limit their outdoor time with shorter walks, provide sweaters or booties for extra warmth, and use dry blankets that are rotated regularly when outdoors.

## **Prevent Toxic Hazards**

Antifreeze is highly toxic to pets. Clean up any spills immediately, and store antifreeze out of reach. If you suspect your pet has ingested a toxic substance, seek veterinary help right away.

## **Tap Your Hood Before Starting Your Vehicle**

Outdoor cats often seek warmth in car engine compartments. Tap on your hood or honk your horn before starting your car to avoid accidents.

## **Wildlife Awareness**

Cold weather may bring wildlife like coyotes closer to neighborhoods in search of food. Remove pet food bowls from outdoor spaces to avoid attracting them.

For animal ordinance violations or concerns about pet safety, contact 311 for assistance. For additional tips and resources, visit [ElPasoAnimalServices.org](http://ElPasoAnimalServices.org).

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Promoting **Transparent & Consistent Communication**  
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