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Michigan Humane Reminds Public to Keep Pets Safe During Dangerous Cold Weather

Organization's medical teams offer best practices for pets during below-freezing temperatures

WHO: Michigan Humane's veterinary professionals are reminding community members of the dangers freezing temperatures can pose to pets as this week's weather forecast is expected to drop below zero across metro Detroit.

WHAT: When the temperatures drop below freezing, it's best to bring pets inside.

"Cold weather always brings additional challenges to caring for ourselves and our pets," said Dr. Crystal Sapp, Vice President of Veterinary Medicine at Michigan Humane. "Ensuring animals are brought inside, if able, is the best thing you can do to help lessen the impact of the cold on your pet."

Dr. Sapp and team offer the following reminders to keep pets safe during extreme cold weather:

- If your pet cannot come inside, make sure your pet has adequate shelter that's also bedded well with straw for insulation.
- Ensure that your pet has access to water that isn't frozen.
- Provide more food than normal on cold days as pets will utilize more energy to keep warm than on more temperate days.

As stated by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, owners should always follow up with their veterinarians for pet-specific questions related to cold-weather concerns.

WHERE & WHEN: Myron Golden, Field Services Manager, is available for on-site interviews regarding cold weather safety at the Mackey Center for Animal Care (7887 Chrysler Drive, Detroit, MI 48211) or by virtual call.

WHY: Michigan Humane is committed to the health and safety of pets and their people across southeastern Michigan. A variety of resources are available to pet owners; contact 866-MHUMANE (866-648-6263) to learn more. To report possible cruelty or neglect cases in Detroit, Hamtramck, or Highland Park, please call 313-872-3401. In all other cities, please contact your local police or animal control department.

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