

Cold Weather and Arthritis

Contributed by Administrator
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With the cold weather approaching it is important to keep your pet in a comfortable living environment. Sudden fluctuations in temperature variation can often be quite stressful to your pet's immune system and health. In particular, older pets, will be quite susceptible to cold related diseases such respiratory related problems and hypothermia.

One common disease, which will usually affect the older pet, is arthritis. Arthritis in most cases is associated with joint pain. Many pet owners will notice this with their pets for the first time during the colder months, when they suddenly do not appear as active or have difficulty walking. They may find that they are especially uncomfortable when the temperature is coolest in the evening or first thing in the morning.

Arthritis is a progressive disease and in many cases cannot be cured. If treated early it may be possible to slow the progression of the disease. In some cases antibiotics may be required to treat arthritis and there are many forms of conservative and pain treatments available to treat a patient with.

A veterinarian can help you determine the cause and severity of arthritis with examination and other procedures such as blood testing and x-ray.

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