

# The Dog Days of Summer: Your Dog in the Blistering Heat – Electrolytes and Hydration

Butch, a miniature schnauzer, trotted along the trail just ahead of his friend Downy, an aging lab mix. Tongues lolling, both dogs glanced with interest to the left and right, hoping to spot a gecko or possibly even a rabbit. Behind them, their owners clutched half-filled water bottles and squinted into the merciless sun, eager to gain the ridge ahead where they would be stopping for lunch of sandwiches, fruit and salty corn chips.

What happens as soon as we step out into the blazing heat of the southwest? We're all aware of the need to stay hydrated and replenish electrolytes. But what's going on in the body chemistry of our pets?

## The Need to Replenish Lost Nutrients

According to Arizona veterinarian Dr. Jamie Schmidt, D.V.M., "For years, electrolyte drinks have been used for re-hydration among athletes and at other times of stress to the human body. Like humans, animals also need to replenish trace minerals and sugars that are lost through daily activity."

One of the problems we face in our advanced society is that dog owners are forced to place a number of restrictions on pets that limit their ability to roam free and obtain some of the trace elements they require for optimal health. In addition, Fido might be able to "speak," but he cannot tell us that he needs potassium, or that his sodium levels are dangerously low.

## Good News for Pet Owners

There's no better place than Arizona for a solution to this problem to emerge. Two Arizona

dog enthusiasts have founded Hydro Laboratories – a company headquartered in the Airpark – and are introducing Hydro Dog™, an electrolyte drink for dogs.



**Business: Hydro Laboratories**  
**Address: 7501 E. Monte Cristo**  
**Phone: (480) 855-7686**  
**Web site: [www.hydrodog.com](http://www.hydrodog.com)**

Similar to the sports drinks found in nearly every grocery store, Hydro Dog supplies potassium, sodium, calcium, phosphorus, chloride and dextrose to the canine nervous and muscular systems. Dogs' systems can use these nutrients as a source of energy and ions for normal cellular function. Hydro Dog also addresses the issue of hydration, allowing you to add to your pet's critical daily intake of water while providing for his or her electrolyte needs.

While dog foods might supply certain amounts of the nutrients found in Hydro Dog, this handy drink assures you of specific levels of each important substance. The Hydro Dog formula was derived from a supplement used for many years by veterinarians in the northeast.

## When Does My Dog Need These Nutrients?

People undergo stress – and dogs do as well. Making electrolytes available to your pet might be one of the most important things you can do to ensure its health and longevity. Hydro Dog is important for active as well as sedentary dogs.

"I've used Hydro Dog successfully for healthy, active dogs, older dogs and for dogs undergoing stresses such as recovering from surgery and hospital visits," states Schmidt. "I recommend this product as a beneficial substance to incorporate into your pet's daily routine. It is also important when taking your dog on vacation or putting it in a boarding kennel."

Your dog might be losing more electrolytes and water than you think in the extremely hot, parched Arizona summer. Also, most dogs love to exercise – and maintaining the proper balance of nutrients can really make a difference. According to Schmidt, “In the case of dehydration during exercise, a dog’s needs for electrolytes and fluids can almost double. This increases the importance of adding Hydro Dog to your dog’s diet.”

### **Tasty and Convenient**

Hydro Dog is not only a superior electrolyte source that replenishes depleted minerals and fluids, but it is also a top-ranking beverage for dogs! The light orange flavor, accompanied by a small amount of dextrose, seems to truly appeal to canine taste buds.



*Kyzer, a growing purebred Weimaraner, is a big Hydro Dog fan.*

Ryan Bucher, owner of a young purebred Weimaraner named Kyzer, put it this way, “Our dog is outside for several hours throughout the day in the hot Arizona sun. We brought the Hydro Dog home and began to introduce it into our dog’s diet. Needless to say, he loved the water – it looks as if we will be purchasing Hydro Dog on a regular basis.”

Hydro Dog is packaged in convenient sports-top bottles that allow you to easily fill your dog’s water bowl or carry the drink along with your own beverage when you leave the house with your pet. “When away from home, my dog drinks straight from the bottle,” says Eric McHaney, co-founder of Hydro Laboratories. “She learned this very quickly – and she really likes the taste!”

### **A Splash of Electrolytes**

A smart addition to any dog’s daily regime, Hydro Dog can keep electrolytes balanced so your pet is not prone to illness. Hydro Dog is not a medicine, and it can be easily incorporated into your dog’s regular diet.

The product is currently available at a price comparable to that of Gatorade or similar sports drinks. For ordering information, call 1 (866) HYDRODG (1-866-493-7634) or visit [www.hydrodog.com](http://www.hydrodog.com).©

— Cathy Streiner

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