

Newsletter

Urgent Message from Dr. Robert Bebko

CAT CLINIC AND HOSPITAL

FELINE EXPERTISE, EXPERIENCE, AND EXCELLENCE FOR CATS!

THE SOLAR ECLIPSE AND YOUR CAT APRIL 8, 2024



A 97 percent solar eclipse is coming to Pittsburgh on Monday, April 8. It starts at 2 p.m. and ends at 4:30 p.m. Maximum eclipse occurs at 3:17 p.m., at which point the moon will cover 97 percent of the sun in Pittsburgh. The sky will noticeably dim but not become completely dark. What do you need to know and do to keep your cat safe?

During a solar eclipse, there are certain precautions pet owners should take to ensure the safety and well-being of their animals:

1. ****Keep pets indoors****: Just as you shouldn't look directly at the sun during a solar eclipse without proper eye protection, you should also keep your pets indoors to prevent them from inadvertently staring at the sun, which could damage their eyes. Also, the darkness occurring mid-day will

cause some disorientation, and that can lead to fear reactions. To prevent them from panicking and possibly running and hiding, keep them indoors.

2. ****Close curtains or blinds****: Indoors, close curtains or blinds to minimize the amount of sunlight entering your home. This can help reduce the chances of your pets being tempted to look outside and potentially damaging their eyes. We recommend closing them around noon and not reopening until the eclipse is over.

3. ****Provide distractions****: Keep your pets occupied with toys or activities indoors to help distract them from any confusion or anxiety they may experience due to the changes in light and environment during the eclipse. Catnip is always a good choice.

4. ****Ensure outdoor pets are in a secure location****: If you have outdoor pets, make sure they are in a secure and sheltered location during the eclipse. Provide them with adequate shade, water, and shelter to ensure their comfort and safety.

5. ****Monitor behavior****: Keep an eye on your pets' behavior during the eclipse. Some animals may become anxious or disoriented by the changes in light and may require extra reassurance and attention.

6. ****Be prepared for changes in behavior****: Some pets may exhibit unusual behavior during a solar eclipse, such as hiding, pacing, or vocalizing. Be patient and understanding with your pets, and provide them with comfort and reassurance as needed.

By taking these precautions, you can help ensure that your pets remain safe and comfortable during a solar eclipse.

Happy 45th Birthday Cat Clinic

April 7, 1979 - April 7, 2024

***The artwork of the cat with solar glasses is available on a T-Shirt through**

ETSY, by Natsuko from [SpecialtyGiftsStore](#)

Since 1979, we have cared for tens of thousands of Pittsburgh cats and kittens, and we bring our passion for felines to work with us. After 45 years, you know what we love. Every cat is treated like they are our own, and every human companion is treated with kindness and respect. A feline only practice is the truly fear free environment for cats!

Call for an appointment.....we always make time to see our patients in need!

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