



NEFHRC

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The Hunter's Blind

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Coming Events

- 07/13/2019 NEFHRC Training Day
- 08/10/2019 NEFHRC Training Day
- 09/28-09/29/2019 Old South Hunting Retriever Club
- 09/28-09/29/2019 Charleston Retriever Club

About NEFHRC Newsletter

This quarterly newsletter is to help members keep updated on our club events, achievements, or other announcements that may be of interest. If you have something you would like to submit, please e-mail Karen VanDonsel at webmaster@nefhrc.net.

Please feel free to submit pictures, brags, sale of dog or



training equipment, litters or any other items of interest for club members. The deadline for submission is the 15th of each month.

This newsletter is for you, our members. We want to include what you want. So, please help make this a great newsletter and submit your articles, pictures, stories and ideas. We want to hear from you!

Fun Facts

Did you know the Preamble of the Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. Constitution states its primary purpose to be: "...the betterment of Hunting Retrievers as a whole and to influence the breeding and training of a better and finer Hunting Retriever; to provide hunters

and Hunting Retrievers a series of actual Hunting tests in a controlled system and furnish an ongoing educational program for the Hunters, for their training, experience, and sporting competition. Further, it is the purpose of this Association to support and protect the inherent rights of its

members to own, hunt, bear arms, to promote the breed and type of dog of their choice and promote complimentary conservation and management of game birds and wildlife species commonly pursued by the members of the Hunting Retriever Club, Inc."



Water Intoxication in Dogs: What You Must Know

Reprinted with permission by <https://topdogtips.com/water-intoxication-in-dogs/>.

Water intoxication in dogs is what happens when a canine consumes excess water; this can be from playing in the pool or biting at the garden hose. The result of excess water? A depletion of the sodium, and chloride levels required for the body to function.

Typically pet owners tend to worry that their animal companions won't get enough water. But have you ever stopped to consider that your pooch may be getting too much of it? This is only something to worry about in specific cases: if your pup likes to play in water or spends a lot of time swimming, but it can happen to any dog.

The symptoms of water intoxication in dogs vary based on the amount of water consumed, the size and health condition of the dog and the time since drinking. We'll get into the specifics below after the infographic, but some of the common signs to look for include:

- **vomiting**
- **wobbliness when walking**
- **lethargy**
- **convulsions**

Symptoms do vary, and if you're worried that your dog may have water intoxication, and isn't acting quite right – trust your instinct. This article explains more about this condition and what you should do to prevent it, or if you suspect your pet has ingested too much water. Below is also an infographic with all information condensed in one place.

Water Intoxication In Dogs

how to avoid it, prevent it and deal with it

If you think that your dog may be suffering from water intoxication, phone your veterinarian immediately. Water intoxication in dogs is life-threatening and can cause your pet's brain to swell. A serious case could lead to his nervous system shutting down within hours.

With immediate treatment, the prognosis is far more promising.

Every responsible dog owner should know what to look for when suspected water intoxication has occurred, how to deal with it, and what to do before emergency help can be located. Educate yourself on water toxicity, and perhaps one day you'll save the life of your loyal best friend.

What is Water Intoxication in Dogs?

Water intoxication or excessive water consumption in canines can put your four-legged friend in serious, and even life-threatening, danger.

When your dog ingests too much water, it causes a dangerously low sodium level – or to use the technical term, hyponatremia. Certainly not something to be sniffed at, consuming too much water can be just as dangerous as too little.

Dehydration is a far more prevalent ailment in canines. Sadly, many dog owners just aren't aware of the dangers that could face their pet if the opposite problem were to occur.

Sodium and chloride are essential to keep the body functioning normally, and when these levels deplete due to water intoxication, swelling will occur.

Remember, swelling doesn't just mean a big paw or swollen face, **it can also mean swelling in the brain and other vital organs.**



As much as our pooches love to play, splash and swim in the wet stuff, it's critical for any responsible owner to at least be aware of the potential for water intoxication in dogs. It's also important that you understand the preventative measures and treatment.

Who Can Suffer from Water Intoxication?

Unfortunately, there's no set rule on which dogs will and will not suffer from water intoxication. The truth is that sadly, this can happen to any dog.

Having said that, there are some factors which will make some more susceptible than others.

Small Dogs/Puppies

Water intoxication in dogs is a form of poisoning. Just as children are far more likely to have extreme reactions than adults, the same goes young and small canines. The reason is, of course, the smaller the dog, the lower the capacity for water.

Dogs that love to play with water

Most dogs love playing in the water. While it's a joy to watch them having such a great time swimming in the lake or biting at the stream of water from the hose pipe, you've got to be wary of accidental poisoning.

Lean breeds

Perhaps a surprising one here, the leaner the dog, the lower their resilience for water intoxication. Experts have noted that this is due to a faster metabolism, resulting in the excess water absorbing into the body even more quickly.

Common Symptoms

The quicker that you can identify the signs of water intoxication in dogs, the better. If caught during the very beginning, your pet will have a far better chance of survival.

Some of the first symptoms to occur are:

- anxiety
- vomiting
- excessive drooling
- wobbliness when moving
- muscle twitches

As the hyponatremia progresses, the symptoms become much more severe. If you see any of these symptoms occur, consult your veterinarian immediately:

- mouth hanging open
- staggering when trying to walk
- inability to control bladder
- severe muscle spasms
- fits and convulsions
- falling in and out of consciousness

Difference of Fresh vs Salt Water Intoxication

Another danger for dogs that spend time enjoying the wonders of the sea is salt poisoning, also known as **hyPERnatremia**. While similar in name to **hyPONatremia** (water intoxication), the symptoms can be different.



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When your dog has salt poisoning he may develop the following symptoms:

- dehydration
- vomiting
- uncontrolled bowel movements
- fits and convulsions

If you worry that your dog may be suffering from hypernatremia, consult your veterinarian immediately. Salt poisoning can detrimentally affect neurological function, and even cause death.

Common Misdiagnosis on Water Intoxication

A problem with water intoxication in dogs is that there is a lack of research on the ailment in dogs. Granted it's not incredibly common, but when an owner has the nightmare of having a dog suffer from it, there's no comfort in that fact.

We have all the respect in the world for veterinarians. They undergo years of training, but due to the lack of industry-wide knowledge and training on water intoxication in dogs, misdiagnosis is sadly a common occurrence.

Be wary of diagnosis by your vet of the following, as they are very similar to those of water intoxication:

- head trauma
- overexertion
- hypothermia
- salt poisoning

As the owner, it's up to you to give your veterinarian the full picture. Some owners worry that their vet will feel as though you're intruding on their role. Definitely not! Their only concern is making sure that your pet gets healthy again.

Who Else is Susceptible?

This medical issue is reasonably well known. After all, we've all heard of water poisoning in humans. As infrequent as it may be, there have even been deaths reported from the subsequent swelling to the brain.

But, did you know that this is also an issue that cattle farmers have to contend with?

In renowned farming areas such as Texas and Australia, the hot climate can cause grazing cattle to become dehydrated before they can reach a watering hole. Cows have been known to overdo it once they reach water. They consume far larger quantities than their bodies can handle.

Cases of Water Intoxication in Dogs

There have been some tragic tales of owners losing beloved pets due to water intoxication. One such story we saw on iheartdogs.com was the tale of Kinetic, a three and a half-year-old Papillon owned by a lady named Susan.

An excellent example of what an owner should be, the story runs through Susan's standard routine of limiting the time that Kinetic was allowed play in the pool to ensure that she didn't overexert herself. One hot day, only thirty minutes after giving Kinetic a scheduled rest break from pool play, Susan found her beloved pooch unresponsive on the couch. Rushing her to the vet for immediate help, unfortunately, wasn't enough to save Kinetic.

There are other stories to read out there as well. Most end with dog owners recognizing the symptoms and having excellent veterinary care. It results in saving the dog's life, and no long term effects!



We hope that through articles like this and owners like Susan sharing their stories, we can increase the awareness of hyponatremia. It's our responsibility to share knowledge about how to recognize the symptoms and provide treatment.

Prevention of Water Intoxication

As the adage goes, prevention is better than a cure. I hope that all responsible dog owners will read, and share these top tips for preventing water intoxication in dogs:

1. **Limit play time in the water**, especially if you're playing fetch. If you usually throw a ball for your dog to retrieve from the water, consider replacing this with a flat toy. This will decrease the chance of him accidentally swallowing water while grabbing the ball.
2. **Always supervise your dog when he's playing with water.** Some dogs that bite at the stream from sprinklers just don't know when to stop.
3. If your dog is prone to over drinking, **it's advisable not to leave him with access to unlimited amounts of water during the day.** A bucket of water isn't necessary. A bowl will do just fine.
4. **Keep on top of your dog's health** with regular checkups at the vet. Some kidney issues can affect the body's ability to eliminate fluids.
5. **Always have water available.** This may be counter-intuitive, but the time that your dog is most likely to over-consume water is when he's incredibly thirsty. By having a small bowl of water available at all times, you reduce this risk.

Home Treatment for Water Intoxication

If you ever notice that your dog is suffering from any of the symptoms that we mentioned, restrict access to any additional water and consult your veterinarian immediately.

Water intoxication in dogs can turn nasty quickly, with a dog going from a big bundle of energy to unresponsive within an hour or two.

Veterinary Treatment

Remember that speed is everything. While your dog may no longer be drinking water, his body will still be absorbing water that he has already ingested.

Dogs can suffer from brain damage disturbingly quickly. While treatments can reverse the effects of water intoxication reasonably quickly, the damage that remains is harder to overcome.

If you have to bring your pet to a veterinarian's office for water intoxication, you can expect one or a mixture of the following three treatments:

1. Administering an IV to replenish electrolytes
2. Diuretics to encourage urination
3. Mannitol is sometimes given to decrease cranial pressure

While dogs may recover on their own from minor water intoxication, the risk of death from this ailment makes it unwise to wait it out at home.



4 Other Water Related Dangers for Dogs

Excessive water consumption and salt poisoning aren't the only hazards that your dog could face around the water this summer.

Keep your eyes peeled for the following dangers:

1. Algae poisoning

We've all seen ponds covered in stinky green and blue algae. While it's an obvious, immediate turn-off for humans who were considering going in for a dip, our joy filled dogs are less likely to be perturbed.

We all know that algae looks gross, but do you know the hidden dangers? For dogs and humans alike, getting algae on the skin can cause a pretty nasty rash and should be thoroughly washed off as soon as you're out of the water.

An additional danger for dogs is when they drink the algae-infested water. More than just giving them an upset stomach, it can detrimentally affect their liver, intestines, kidneys, and central nervous system. If your dog begins to exhibit symptoms such as vomiting, diarrhea and difficulty walking, consult your veterinarian immediately.

2. Parasites

In any stagnant water, it's highly likely for there to be a bacteria build up. In most dogs with a healthy immune system, they will be able to shake off an infection or parasite infestation with some rest and over-the-counter treatments.

Older dogs, dogs with a history of medical issues and puppies, however, are more likely to have a more severe reaction and require veterinary attention.

3. Jellyfish

Nobody wants to go through the pain of being stung by a jellyfish. It hurts! But in dogs, it's more than just painful and can even be deadly.

As a human walking through the water or along the beach, the chances are that if you're stung it will be on your foot or lower leg. As dogs explore the world with their mouths and noses, it's highly likely that they will be stung on their nose, face or tongue. In any one of these areas, it will result in swelling and difficulty in breathing.

The first plan of action if your dog is stung by a jellyfish needs to be to go to the veterinarian immediately. **Not a cheap affliction, you could be looking at costs anywhere from \$800-\$3000 dollars in vet bills.**

They have to quickly remove any stingers that are still attached. Interestingly, the stingers on a jellyfish can continue to react for several weeks.

4. Drowning

On a hot summer's day, nothing beats that refreshing feeling of jumping in the lake or swimming pool to cool down, and so it goes for your canine pal too.

But, all too often the risk of drowning is discounted. After all, dogs are such great swimmers that we have a stroke named after them – the doggy paddle.

Beware the danger of an exhausted dog, and a steep incline. No matter if your pup is in a swimming pool or an open



body of water, an exhausted dog can struggle to get out of the water without a little help. For that reason, I'd always recommend a doggy life vest.

In Conclusion

Water intoxication, while uncommon, is an incredibly dangerous condition. As a responsible dog owner, it's up to you to be aware of these potential hidden dangers lurking in plain sight.

Do your dog a favor and pay attention to his behavior. By knowing how he acts when at his healthiest, you'll be able to spot any medical problems much faster. Therefore, you'll be able to treat and overcome potentially devastating medical issues if they arise.

There are ways to avoid water-related dangers. From throwing flat toys into the water rather than round ones to outfitting your dog with his very own life jacket, it's your responsibility to keep your Fido safe when he's near the water.

The full article, along with graphics, can be found at <https://topdogtips.com/water-intoxication-in-dogs/>.



NORTHEAST FLORIDA HUNTING RETRIEVER CLUB

www.nefhrc.net

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

____ **New Member** ____ **Renewal**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____

ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE Home: _____

Other: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

DOG BREED: _____

CALL NAME: _____

Club dues are \$50.00 for both individual and family membership. The dues include the cost of the NEFHRC decal.

ANNUAL CLUB DUES ARE DUE JANUARY 1ST OF EACH YEAR.

Please make checks payable to **NORTHEAST FLORIDA HUNTING RETRIEVER CLUB.**

Mail the check and both pages to:

John Spivey, NEFHRC Treasurer
2427 Creekfront Drive
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043
(386) 288-1350

Areas where I'd like to help with the Club:

RELEASE

WHEREAS the undersigned desires to release certain parties from any damages that may arise, directly or indirectly, as the result of his/her participation in club activities offered by the Northeast Florida Hunting Retriever Club, fully realizing the inherent danger in any type of sporting event of this nature.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of being allowed to participate in said activities, the undersigned does hereby release and forever discharge Northeast Florida Hunting Retriever Club, its officers, directors, members, participants, spectators, and all landowners whose land they may be using, from and all manner of actions, causes of such actions, claims and demands whatsoever, in law or in equity, which may arise now or in the future because of, or pertaining to, the undersigned's participation in any of its activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto affixed my hand the date and year written below.

DATED AND SIGNED THIS _____ day of _____.

(Name Printed) _____ (Name Signed) _____

All club members are urged to also become members of the national HRC. To do so, complete the form found on our website and send to: UNITED KENNEL CLUB - HRC, 100 East Kilgore Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49001. Annual National HRC dues are \$25.00 (individual) and \$30.00 (family). This membership includes the *HUNTING RETRIEVER* magazine.

If currently a member of the National HRC, enter Membership # _____ and Expiration Date _____.



Hunting Retriever Club, Inc.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

In North America today, there is an organization that was established to test the hunting retriever in a true-to-life hunting environment. This organization, the Hunting Retriever Club, Inc., was created to develop the type of testing that you, and thousands like you, have wanted for years. The Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. (HRC) has established a no-nonsense, true to life, training and testing program where gun dog owners meet, train, learn and test their dogs afield.

The HRC was formed under the auspices of the United Kennel Club, Inc. (UKC). UKC was founded in 1898 as a purebred dog registry devoted to maintaining the inherent working abilities of hunting dogs. UKC sponsors more hunting dog events than any other such organization in the world.

You can renew your HRC membership or join HRC on line on UKC's website by ordering the Hunting Retriever magazine. Each membership includes a subscription to the HRC magazine, which includes training and information articles as well as local Club event results and a list of upcoming events of the HRC local Clubs. You can choose a one or two year membership that will begin as soon as your application is processed.

If you prefer, you may use the paper application below. Please include a check or money order payable in United States funds, made out to *HRC, Inc.* or *UKC* Send the application & fees to:

**Hunting Retriever Club, Inc.
c/o United Kennel Club, Inc.
100 E. Kilgore Road
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49002**

Membership type:

USA: 1 year Individual \$25.00_____ Family \$30.00_____

2 year Individual \$50.00_____ Family \$60.00_____

Foreign/Canadian: 1 year Individual \$30.00_____ Family \$35.00_____

2 year Individual \$60.00_____ Family \$70.00_____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

What HRC Local Club are you a member of? _____

Family members name(s):



We're on the web!

<http://nefhrc.net>

NEFHRC is sanctioned by the United Kennel Club, Inc. We are a club devoted to the training of bird hunting dogs for the purposes of hunting and hunt tests. As the UKC says, we are a club "*Conceived by hunters for hunters.*"

Club Officers and Contacts

- ⇒ **President—Jenny Richardson**
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- ⇒ **Vice-President— Christian Hazouri**
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- ⇒ **Secretary—Nancy Refsnider**
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- ⇒ **Treasurer—John Spivey**
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