

(Laser talk: A dose of castor oil for the constipated who can't get moving on climate change)

Laser Talk: What's happening to your dog because of climate change

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It's interesting to realize that our most beloved pets, the cats and dogs who are like members of our families, are now the canaries in the coal mine when it comes to warning us of the dangers of climate change.

As a pet owner, you've undoubtedly already experienced the increased cost of protecting your pet's health.

Because of climate change, the Heart guard pills that used to be needed only four months a year now have to be given year-round and that costs you over \$500 each year!

Add on to that the tick repellent your pet needs to protect against Lyme disease and that's another \$8 or more per month or about \$100 a year.

But as bad as the higher financial cost is, there is an even greater threat to our pets' lives as the direct result of climate change, and that's sudden death to a perfectly healthy dog who enjoyed a few minutes of frolicking in water! Algae blooms caused by climate change are thriving in warmer water, creating a toxic bath of amoebic encephalitis that strikes a fatal blow to innocent dogs within hours of exposure.

So it's not just the human members of our families whose health and wellbeing are threatened by climate change. Even our four-legged friends need each of us to take action today to make a difference.

Would you like my action card? On the back are the links to both the local and national websites for Citizens' Climate Lobby, which I believe with all my heart is our nation's best hope for achieving national action to save our planet. We'd love to have you check us out! Could I call you before our next meeting?