

Aging and Adult Services - Public Guardian

HOT WEATHER

TIPS

DANGER SIGNS

Hot weather can be dangerous and even deadly. Precautions must be taken to ensure health and safety during our summer months. A person suffering from the heat may not realize it. Be aware of the warning signs of heat-related illness, which include:

- ▶ Heat cramps: Painful muscle contractions, usually in the hamstring muscles.
- ▶ Heat exhaustion: Dizziness, fatigue, headache, rapid/weak pulse, pale or clammy skin.
- ▶ Heatstroke: Hot/dry/flushed skin, high body temperature, rapid heartbeat and confusion.

PREVENTION TIPS

- > Drink plenty of water. Carry a bottle with you when you are away from home.
- Wear loose fitting cotton clothing and hats with wide brims and carry an umbrella.
- > Check with your doctor. Heat may affect your reaction to certain medications.
- > Keep electric lights low or off, shades drawn and blinds closed and limit oven use.
- > Stay in well-ventilated areas. Circulation of air helps you keep cool.
- > Open a window or turn on a fan or air conditioner.
- ➤ Have a friend check up on you at different times of the day when it is very hot.
- > Eat light meals and avoid alcohol and caffeine.
- > Plan ahead so your outside activities are during the coolest part of the day.
- > Avoid unnecessary activity and being in direct sunlight or a hot environment.
- > Take your time. Do not run around in a hurry.
- > Never wait in a car or leave people or pets in a car.
- Remember, excessive heat exposure can result in illness or death!

Call Senior Information and Assistance at 1-800-510-2020 to connect with resources and services. If you need emergency medical services, call 911 immediately!

<u>www.SBCounty.gov/daas</u>