HEAT EXHAUSTION

Heavy sweating
Weakness
Cold, pale, clammy skin
Fast, weak pulse
Nausea or vomiting
Fainting

WATCH FOR THE SIGNS

Seek medical care immediately if you have or someone you know has symptoms of heat-related illness. Warning signs and symptoms vary but may include:

- High body temperature (above 103°F)*
- Hot, red, dry or moist skin
- Rapid and strong pulse
- Possible unconsciousness

HEAT STROKE

*104°F taken rectally is the most accurate

IT’S HOT OUTSIDE!

Extremely hot weather can cause sickness or even death.

STAY COOL. Stay in air-conditioned buildings as much as possible and avoid direct sunlight.

STAY HYDRATED. Drink plenty of water and don’t wait until you’re thirsty to drink.

STAY INFORMED. Stay updated on local weather forecasts so you can plan activities safely when it’s hot outside.

KNOW WHEN IT’S HOT!
Check local news for extreme heat alerts and safety tips.

www.cdc.gov/nceh/extremeheat

STAY COOL.
STAY HYDRATED.
STAY INFORMED.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Environmental Health
During an extreme heat event, check on at-risk friends, family, and neighbors at least twice a day. Encourage them to:

- Check on a friend or neighbor, and have someone do the same for you.
- Avoid using the stove or oven to cook.
- Wear loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing.

**People with a chronic medical condition** are less likely to sense and respond to changes in temperature. Also, they may be taking medications that can intensify the effects of extreme heat.

**Who needs special care?**

The elderly, people with a chronic medical condition, children, homeless or poor, outdoor workers, and athletes are most at-risk to heat sickness.

Most cities offer cooling centers or other air-conditioned shelter to the homeless or poor during times of extreme heat.

**Athletes and people who exercise** in extreme heat are more likely to become dehydrated and are more likely to get heat sickness.

- Limit outdoor activity, especially midday when it is the hottest part of the day.
- Schedule workouts and practices earlier or later in the day to avoid midday heat.
- Pace activity. Start activities slowly and pick up the pace gradually.
- Drink from two to four cups of water every hour while exercising. Muscle cramping may be an early sign of heat sickness.

**People who work outdoors** are more likely to become dehydrated and are more likely to get heat sickness.

- Drink from two to four cups of water every hour while working. Don’t wait until you are thirsty to drink.
- Avoid alcohol or liquids containing large amounts of sugar.
- Wear and reapply sunscreen as indicated on the package.
- Ask if tasks can be scheduled for earlier or later in the day to avoid midday heat.

Never leave **infants** or **children** in a parked car. Nor should **pets** be left in parked cars—they can suffer heat sickness too.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

www.cdc.gov/nceh/extremeheat

Check on the **elderly**, or people aged 65 years or older, to make sure they are safe by staying cool, hydrated, and informed.