



Fourth of July Safety

Fourth of July fireworks can frighten pets, and that fear can cause a dog or cat to panic and try to escape the confines of a yard or even the house. Below are tips to help keep your pet safe and secure.

- Keep your pet indoors on the Fourth of July in a quiet and isolated room without windows, such as a bathroom or basement. Turn on a fan, radio, or TV to muffle the sound of fireworks. These devices provide familiar indoor sounds and may help soothe your pet if he must be alone on this noisy holiday. Don't bring your pet to a fireworks display.
- If you know from past experience that your pet will suffer from severe anxiety caused by the loud noise of fireworks, you may consider talking with your vet several days in advance about giving your pet a mild tranquilizer.
- If your pet behaves nervously by pacing, whining, or crying, distract your pet by playing with him or doing something he enjoys. Giving calm petting may help him feel more comfortable. You can also save a special bone or treat to give to him during this time. Doing something he enjoys while the fireworks are happening will help create a positive association and will be a welcome distraction to the noise.
- Make sure your pet always wears an appropriately fitted collar. You should be able to slip no more than two fingers beneath your dog's collar and your cat should be wearing a stretch or safety breakaway collar and an I.D. tag with your current phone number and address. Your pet should also be wearing a current license/rabies tag. You may also want to talk with your veterinarian about microchipping your pet in the event he loses his collar and tags.
- If your pet does stray away from home, call (513) 541-6100 and file a lost animal report. You may be instructed to come visit our Northside facility where most strays are taken.