



4th of July Pet Safety Tips

- **Do not take your pet to fireworks displays.**
- **Do not leave your pet in the car – with only hot air to breathe inside a car, your pet can suffer serious health effects, even death, in a few short minutes. It is also against the law.**
- **Keep your pets indoors, at home, in a sheltered, quiet area – some animals can become destructive when frightened, so be sure that you've removed any items that your pet could destroy or that would be harmful to your pet if chewed or ingested. Leave a television or radio playing at normal volume to keep him/her company while you are away.**
- **If you know your pet is seriously distressed by loud noises like thunder, consult with your veterinarian before the holiday for ways to help alleviate the fear and anxiety he/she will experience during the fireworks display.**
- **Never leave pets outside unattended, even in a fenced yard on a chain. In their fear, pets who normally wouldn't leave the yard may escape and become lost, or become entangled in their chain, risking injury or even death.**
- **Make sure your pets are wearing identification tags so that if they become lost, they can be returned promptly. Animals found running at-large should be taken to the local animal shelter, where they will have the best chance of being reunited with their owners.**
- **If you plan to go away for the holiday, make sure your pet is properly cared for by a neighbor, relative, or close friend. Make sure that your pet-sitter is aware of these precautions for the holiday as well.**
- **Do not give your pet alcoholic beverages. These drinks have the potential to poison pets. If ingested, the animal could become very intoxicated and weak, severely depressed or could go into a coma. Death from respiratory failure is also a possibility.**
- **Do not apply sunscreen or insect repellent products to your pet that are not specifically labeled for use on animals. Ingestion of these products can result in drooling, vomiting, diarrhea, excessive thirst and lethargy. The misuse of products with DEET can lead to neurological problems.**
- **Keep citronella candles, insect coils and oil products out of reach. Ingestions can produce stomach irritation and possibly central nervous system depression.**
- **Always keep matches and lighter fluid out of your pets' reach. Certain types of matches contain chlorates, which could potentially damage blood cells and result in difficulty breathing – or even kidney disease in sever cases. Lighter fluid can produce gastrointestinal distress and central nervous system depression if ingested.**
- **Do not put glow jewelry on your pets, or allow them to play with it. Excessive drooling and stomach irritation can result from ingestion and intestinal blockage can occur from swallowing large pieces of the plastic.**



This information provided by Kern County Animal Control.
For more information, call 661-868-7104.