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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Keeping Your Pet Safe This Summer

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Voorhees, NJ – Animal Welfare Association (AWA) wants to make sure pet owners keep their pets safe during the 4th of July holiday and throughout the summer. Along with firework noise there are other summer hazards that can be dangerous to animals.

“People don’t realize how dangerous the summer months can be for animals”, says Maya Richmond, Executive Director of Animal Welfare Association.

Ways to keep your pet safe:

- Make sure your pet has identification tags with up-to-date information. If your pets are not micro-chipped, think about having this simple procedure performed. Pets with micro-chips have a higher chance of being returned to their owners. If they are micro-chipped, verify the contact information is up to date.
- Make sure your fence is secure and your pet can not escape if they become frightened by noisy fireworks.
- If you are attending holiday events and are unsure of the environment, it is wise to leave your pet at home. The last thing you want is for your pet to get frightened and become lost in an unfamiliar area. If you do bring your pet it is best to secure them in a room or crate where they feel protected.
- Keep items that could burn a pet out of reach. Never leave sparklers, charcoal, or roasting sticks where a pet could encounter it. Keeping pets away from hot grills is also vital.
- Chocolate and onions are especially dangerous to pets, so make sure you are aware of unsafe food for pets and keep them out of reach.
- Keep your pet inside when temperatures and humidity are extremely high. If they are outside, make sure it is only for a short period of time and that water and shade are available.
- Most importantly, NEVER leave your pet in a hot car. The inside of a car heats up much faster than the air outside. An outside temperature of 75° is 118° inside a car. Best to leave your pet at home if they are not permitted where you are going.

The July 4th holiday and the summer months can be a fun time for you and your family, but just be aware of the danger to your furry family members and ensure they also have a happy and safe summer.

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Animal Welfare Association, a private, non-profit, 501(c) 3 animal welfare organization, serves the people and animals of southern New Jersey. AWA is dedicated to eliminating animal suffering, promoting the importance of the human-animal bond, and improving the role of animals in the well-being of people. Through a variety of programs including adoptions, veterinary services, pet therapy, and humane education, in 2019 over 16,000 pets were served through AWA programming. AWA is South Jersey's leader in progressive companion animal care.



The 4th of July can be a scary time for pets.