

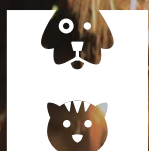
FIREWORKS ARE SCARY!

While you're outdoors enjoying the *boom* and *clap* of the sparklers and the sky rockets, the San Antonio Humane Society wants to remind pet owners that while you may be having a *blast* of a time during the holidays, the same can't always be said for our cats and dogs.

Keep Your Pets Safe & Comfortable:

- » Fireworks are loud! Just like thunder and lightning, fireworks can cause stress and anxiety for our pets. Drown out the sound before it begins by moving your pet into a comfortably dark room with the TV or music volume turned way up. This should be done prior to the festivities.
- » Sometimes "safe" spaces in your home aren't enough to calm your pet. Get your veterinarian involved! Discuss medications or other treatments that may help pass the evening a little more smoothly without stress-induced destruction or other unwanted behaviors.
- » Microchips and identification tags are imperative during particularly loud holidays, especially those involving fireworks. The number of "lost pet" posters increases dramatically as frightened cats and dogs make a hasty escape out the door and away from the noise. Not only is microchipping the law, but it can help reunite lost pets with their families. Be sure to keep your contact info on ID tags and microchips up to date!
- » There's trouble lurking indoors too! Be sure to keep pets away from any harmful foods, sweets, and packaging that can be detrimental to their health if consumed. This means keeping them out of reach of chocolates, fatty foods, aluminum, and garbage. If you have any concerns that your animal may have eaten something they shouldn't have, do not hesitate to contact your veterinarian or the nearest animal ER for advice or assistance.

Even pets that are used to spending their time outdoors can become frightened by the sudden zoom and yells of a festive firework celebration. The San Antonio Humane Society offers microchipping services, pet tags and collars for those interested in keeping their pets safe. Feel free to drop by the shelter (4804 Fredericksburg Road, 78229) or visit SAhumane.org for more info.



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