Pet Lost From Fireworks?  
Animal Services Open for Redemptions July 5th

The Santa Barbara County Animal Services Department wishes everyone a safe and happy 4th of July holiday, and reminds pet owners that many domestic animals are frightened by fireworks. Each year, hundreds of animals are lost as a result of noise related to Independence Day celebrations. In an effort to reunite lost pets Santa Barbara County Animal Services will be open on Sunday, July 5th from 10AM until 2PM for redemptions only.

Below are some simple suggestions to help ensure the safety of your pets.

- **Make sure your dog is wearing a current license tag.** A license tag is your dog’s ticket home when the animal is wearing a license and your information is up to date. **Remember to tag your cat, too.**

- **Keep pets inside.** Bring indoor/outdoor cats and dogs inside. Set up a nice quiet spot in a windowless room, if possible, or keep them in a carrier or kennel. Even if you think your yard is secure, a frightened dog will find a way to escape and a tied up dog may strangle itself trying to get away.

- **Leave the TV or radio on to distract them.** Soothing noise may help keep pets calm.

- **Walk Fido before the fireworks start.** Tiring out your dog with a nice long walk or game of fetch can help them relax and stay calm through the noise.

- **Do not bring your pet to a fireworks display.** For their safety and the safety of others, please leave your pet(s) at home.

- **If your dog or cat is especially noise sensitive**, consider having someone stay home with them, taking them to a boarding facility, or discuss sedatives with your vet.

If after taking all the precautions your cat or dog runs away, visit your local County Animal Services Shelter in Santa Barbara, Santa Maria or Lompoc. County Animal Services shelters will be closed on Friday, July 3rd and Saturday, July 4th. In an effort to reunite lost pets with their families, all three shelters will be open for REDEPTIONS ONLY on Sunday, July 5th from 10am-2pm. If your dog or cat is not there, be persistent and keep checking back, it might take several days for them to arrive.

To help locate your pet we suggest posting flyers in your neighborhood with a current photo of your pet and a phone number where you can be reached, using social media, and placing a lost pet advertisement in the local paper. For more information contact your local shelter: La PAWS 805-737-7755, Santa Maria Animal Center 805-934-6119, Santa Barbara Shelter 805-681-5285.

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