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4 Tips For an Animal-Friendly July 4th

Animal Care & Control of NYC urges pet owners to take precautions during the holiday

NEW YORK — July 4th celebrations including fireworks and large get-togethers can be very stressful for companion animals. Animal Care & Control of NYC (AC&C) offers the following tips to keep New Yorkers' four-legged friends safe:

- Setting off fireworks is illegal in New York City, so enjoy them as a spectator. If you are going to see live fireworks displays, leave pets at home. The crowds, commotion, and thunderous sounds can be stressful for even the most fun-loving pets. Dogs in stressful situations may also bite.
- Make sure your pets are safely at home in a quiet, secure area and provide them with familiar toys, blankets or beds. A crate or a room will help keep dogs and cats who want to be left alone happy.
- Never leave dogs outside unattended, even in a fenced yard or on a tie-out. A fearful dog may become entangled, risking choking or death. In their fear, pets that normally wouldn't leave the yard may escape and get lost.
- Always ensure that your pets have appropriate current identification so if they do get lost, they can be returned promptly. All dogs in NYC are required to be licensed. For more information, visit www.nyc.gov/health.

What to do if you lose your pet:

- File a lost pet report with AC&C immediately. You can do so online at <http://nycacc.org/LostFound.htm>.
- Visit AC&C Care Centers to check for your animal. We recommend that you check with the shelter in person every 48 hours or more often if possible.
 - Manhattan:** 326 East 110th Street
 - Brooklyn:** 2336 Linden Blvd
 - Staten Island:** 3139 Veteran's Road West.
- Post flyers within a one-mile radius of where your pet was last seen. You may consider posting in pet supply stores, veterinarians' offices, animal shelters, and community bulletin boards.

About Animal Care & Control of NYC

Animal Care & Control of New York City (AC&C) is one of the largest animal shelter-systems in the country, taking in more than 30,000 animals each year. As a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization since 1995, AC&C rescues, cares for and finds loving homes for homeless and abandoned animals in New York City. AC&C facilities operate in all five boroughs. Visit <http://nycacc.org> for more information.

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