



# WE LOVE

# FIREWORKS



## YOUR PET MIGHT NOT.

### KEEP YOUR PET SAFE THIS INDEPENDENCE DAY.

Happy Birthday, America! Amidst all the fun and good times, it is easy to forget about our pets safety and well-being. Noisy celebrations, especially fireworks, can frighten our pets and put them at risk. So keep in mind these simple tips to be sure this holiday is a memorable one for all the right reasons.

**TIP 1:** Make sure your dog or cat always has access to a comfortable, quiet and safe place to hide. Either a closet, under a piece of furniture or in his crate.

**TIP 2:** Keep toys and long lasting treats, like Kongs™, in your pet's safe area to make the area more fun and to provide distractions from loud noises and flashes.

**TIP 3:** Make time to exercise your pet during daylight hours; then, keep them safely indoors before the fireworks begin.

**TIP 4:** At dusk, close your windows and curtains and turn on music or the television to muffle the loud noises that accompany social gatherings and the booming thunder from fireworks.

**TIP 5:** Pets convey fear by shivering, cowering, tucking their tail between the legs, and averting their eyes. Looming over a fearful dog will only make it more anxious; and unless a dog is likely to get hurt it is usually best to leave a fearful dog alone because its behavior when scared is uncertain. And, never punish a pet if they are scared.

If your pet has a demonstrated history of noise phobia, contact your veterinarian. There are helpful calming medications that you can give to your pet an hour or two before the fireworks begin.

**TIP 6:** Make sure your pet's microchip enrollment information is up to date in case your pet manages to escape. Also, be sure to add AKC Reunite's 24/7 800# (800-252-7894) to your mobile phone's contact list so you know to take our call when your pet is found.

