



# ***NEWS RELEASE***

## **St. Charles County Government**

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### **Keep Your Pets Safe This Independence Day**

Tips from the St. Charles County Pet Adoption Center

**St. Charles County, Missouri** – The Independence Day holiday is fast approaching, and the bang, boom, and bright lights of fireworks are already showing up across St. Charles County. Unfortunately, many pets are frightened by the loud noises and will run away trying to escape the sound. Local animal shelters always experience increased impounds around the 4th of July because of loud fireworks displays.

If your dog or cat is sensitive to these loud noises, don't take chances. Protect your pets by following these simple tips.

- Keep your pet secured indoors. Even the best behaved dog will jump fences when scared and cats will run away to hide. In their panic, normally friendly animals may try to bite. Many will run into traffic or run long distances.
- Put your animal in a pet crate and put them in a dark room with the door closed. Panicky animals may hurt themselves or damage property when not securely confined.
- If your dog is normally kept outside, put them inside the garage.
- Don't assume your pet won't react because you haven't had problems in the past. Many animals develop sensitivity to loud noises later in life.
- Make sure your pets are wearing an identification tag and/or microchip. Cats can safely wear an ID tag when it's attached to a break-away collar.

The St. Charles County Pet Adoption Center will microchip pets for \$10.00. Call (636) 949-PETS (7387) for more information. If you love your pets, protect them and keep them home with your family. Give them a safe place during the 4th of July holiday.

The Pet Adoption Center serves St. Charles County through sheltering and adopting animals, providing pet owner education, animal control services, and investigation of incidents involving animal cruelty and neglect. Visit the Pet Adoption Center at 4850 Mid Rivers Mall Drive or online at [www.scchealth.org](http://www.scchealth.org).

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