



## July 4th Pet Safety Reminders

With the 4<sup>th</sup> of July quickly approaching, Franklin County residents are excited for the fireworks and festivities to come. However, in all the excitement and planning we may be overlooking our furry best friends, our dogs!

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July can be a very fun or a very stressful holiday for our dogs, so your Franklin County Auditor's Office has compiled an Independence Day safety checklist to keep your pets safe.



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### Plan Ahead of Time:

- Make sure your dog's license information is up-to-date by visiting [FranklinCountyAuditor.com](http://FranklinCountyAuditor.com) and viewing our Dog License web tool. Once there, you can purchase licenses for your dog or update your information. Make sure all of your dogs are properly licensed – it's easier to find the owners of a lost dog that is licensed! (It's also the law.)
- Take a current photo of your dog(s).
- Be mindful of your dog's behavior and psychology. Some dogs react to fireworks, loud noises, and parties differently than others. If you know your dog is frightened by loud noises, plan ahead and keep your dog inside and in a relatively quiet space. Make sure this space is safe and has things to comfort your dog, like toys or their favorite pillow.

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### 4<sup>th</sup> of July Safety Tips:

- Leave your dog at home if you are going to a fireworks show or a large party. Even if your dog does well with fireworks, combining explosions with large groups of rowdy people can frighten your furry friend.
- Keep your dog inside the house or in a well fenced area.

- Keep fireworks away from your dogs. Just because you enjoy them does not mean your dog will!
  - Tell friends not to feed your dogs food scraps, as some human foods are toxic to dogs and can make them sick.
  - In the summer heat, make sure you provide your dog plenty of water along with an area to cool off, such as inside your house or a shaded area. Overheating can happen to dogs too!
  - Should your dog get lost, visit [FranklinCountyAuditor.com](http://FranklinCountyAuditor.com) and check out our Dog eBulletin Board. You can post a detailed description of your lost dog for all of Franklin County to see. Once you find your dog, you can update everyone on the eBulletin Board.
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Your Franklin County Auditor's office hopes that you and your canine companions enjoy the 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities.

Check out all of the resources available at [franklincountyauditor.com](http://franklincountyauditor.com), and we wish you the best summer yet!