

June 28, 2016

Sally Ellertson
Public Information Officer
141 West Renfro
Burleson, Texas 76028-4261
817-426-9622
F: 817-426-9390
sellertson@burlesontx.com
www.burlesontx.com

More dogs run away on the Fourth of July than on any other day of the year. The sound of fireworks - the artificial squeal followed by the giant burst of explosives and subsequent whimper - drives dogs nuts! For many, it triggers their innate flight instinct.

Dogs experience the world through their nose, eyes and ears so sudden loud booms, flashes and the smell of something burning can traumatize them. Please, keep your pets away from areas where fireworks will be set off. For safety reasons, dogs are not permitted at the City of Burleson Concert and Fireworks Show at Chisenhall Fields Sports Complex on July 4.

If you leave your dog at home, try a travel kennel. If you can't be there, ask someone to check on your dog every four hours. And, be sure to treat your pet to a long walk before you leave so they might be more inclined to sleep through the patriotic celebration.

Before July 4th arrives, stop by the Burleson Animal Shelter and get your pet microchipped. The fee is \$15, regardless of where you live. You have to provide proof of rabies vaccination to get the microchip. Microchips are typically implanted just beneath the surface of the skin, between the shoulder blades. Every chip has a unique identification number that links a pet to the owner's personal information so if a dog or cat is lost, chances of reuniting are good.

A veterinarian, animal shelter or humane society can use a scanner to read the pet's chip. The staff then calls 24PetWatch Lost Recovery Service with that registered chip number. 24PetWatch gives the staff the owner's information and the staff contacts the owner. The microchip is the only permanent way of identifying a dog or cat and it lasts the lifetime of that pet.

If your pet turns up missing, it is extremely important that you stop by the Burleson Animal Shelter, 775 SE John Jones Dr. to view the animals at least once every 72 hours. You may submit a form online, <https://www.burlesontx.com/requesttracker.aspx>, email animalshelter@burlesontx.com, or call 817-426-9283 to make a report. It is very important to send an email to the shelter with a picture of the lost or found animal so that shelter staff knows exactly what to look for.

When calling to report a missing pet, include the owner's name, owner's address, contact phone numbers, and description of your pet. Please also include any identification tag numbers your pet may be wearing. The shelter staff maintains a list of all the animals reported missing or found.

If you find a pet, you can also submit a form online, email and call. The online link to report a found pet is the same link to report a lost pet. If it is after hours, you can check the found pet for a microchip at the Burleson Animal Emergency Hospital on Alsbury Boulevard, near Albertsons. Please do not give away or rehome a found pet.

The Burleson Animal Shelter, 775 S.E. John Jones Dr., is open 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Tuesday-Friday and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturdays.