

Animal Safety Week



Don't be NUTS!



**think of the animals
this *Halloween***

This is an exciting and fun time of year for kids and many adults too. We hope all our friends, volunteers, sponsors and supporters have a fun, safe and Happy Halloween!! However we should remember that for the majority of our animals, this time of year can be quite traumatic and stressful. So please *paws* for thought and let's make this Halloween a safe and secure one for all. Here are a few things to think about ...

For the days leading up to, on, and even after Halloween night PLEASE take your pets INSIDE!!!

Make sure your pets have a safe quiet place inside where they aren't frightened by all the noise and excitement and where they can't escape through a constantly opening front door.

A quiet inner room like the kitchen is a good place to be with people they know. Turn on the radio or TV to distract them and try to drown out the noise from any bangers, fireworks etc. If they have their own crate, cover most of it with a towel or a blanket to help drown out the noise and give them that sense of extra security in their own safe haven.

Try not to let your dog greet people at the door on Halloween night.

Dogs often get excited when the doorbell rings ... imagine how excited they could get when this happens repeatedly in one evening. Then imagine how they might feel when the callers are always strangers wearing strange outfits and speaking excitedly in weird tongue? This may make some animals become very fearful, stressed and even the calmest dog might react defensively.

Make sure your dog has a collar with your contact number on at all times.

This is a must at all times but in particular during this period (even if you intend keeping them inside).

PLEASE do not take your dog to the local bonfire under any circumstances!

This is taking a dog directly into the front line. A dog could easily become distressed and confused by all the noise and activity, strange smells and scary loud humans. Keep them at home please ...you are not doing them any favours whatsoever by taking them along.

Make sure that the dog isn't left alone if it's in any way distressed.

If you do go to the bonfire try to make sure that someone is at home with the dog.

Sweets, chocolate and nuts

These are everywhere at this time of year and your dog will of course always want to be part of that action! Tempting and all that it may be to share your many treats please remember that chocolate in particular can be poisonous for dogs and that sweet foods just don't return the same "pleasure" to animals as they do to humans!

Please keep an eye out for any animals who look like they are on their own

On Halloween night in particular be vigilant of animals out there on their own – they may need help. Check it out if you can but always approach cautiously if you don't know the animal. They may be someones pet who escaped and could be a little lost, disorientated and nervous.