

Keep your pets safe during thunderstorms and fireworks






Inner West Council is urging all pet owners to keep their animals secure during the thunderstorm and festive season.

Many pets can become terrified by the noise and flashes associated with fireworks. This stress may cause some animals to escape their yards and roam the streets in an agitated and disoriented state.

In case your pet becomes lost or injured:

MAKE SURE YOUR DETAILS ARE UP-TO-DATE ON YOUR PET'S MICROCHIP

MAKE SURE THEY ARE WEARING A COLLAR AND I.D. TAG

-  **BE PREPARED.** Bring your pet inside or confine them to a small, secure area, before the storm or fireworks begin if possible.
-  **LIGHTS ON.** Leave the lights on in the room to disguise light flashes from outside.
-  **TV or RADIO ON.** Leave the television or radio on to disguise the noise.
-  **CALMLY REASSURE.** Don't fuss over your pet during the storm or fireworks. Provide reassurance calmly.
-  **ACT NORMALLY.** Try to act as you normally would around your pet and continue with your regular activities during the thunderstorm or fireworks.

Consult your veterinarian for further advice if your pet suffers extreme anxiety during thunderstorms or fireworks. A combination of behaviour therapy and medication has been shown to improve the management of pets with noise phobias.