

As a friendly reminder . . . while your HOA does not sanction or sponsor any fireworks in the neighborhood, they are legal out here in the county. Please prepare this week rather than July 3rd. If your human or pet requires medication, call the appropriate medical/veterinary professional the week of the 26th, not Monday before Independence Day. Because July 4th falls on a Tuesday, there will likely be fireworks set off in the surrounding areas throughout the long weekend. Be prepared!

FIREWORK SAFETY

THIS INDEPENDENCE DAY, PLEASE BE COURTEOUS WHEN SETTING OFF FIREWORKS, WHICH MAY BE UPSETTING FOR DOGS AND MILITARY VETERANS

FOR VETERANS:

PERCENTAGES OF VETERANS THAT RETURN WITH PTSD

IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN	GULF WAR (DESERT STORM)	VIETNAM
11-20%	10%	30%

LENGTH OF DEPLOYMENT

12-15 months*	210 days**	12 months
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* Includes multiple deployments ** Operation Desert Storm lasted 210 days

LOUD, UNEXPECTED NOISES, such as fireworks can remind combat veterans with **PTSD of GUNFIRE OR EXPLOSIONS** they had experienced on the battlefield. Consider your neighbors by not setting them off late at night or close to their homes, or better yet, go to an organized event!

Source: US Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Defense

FOR DOGS:

1 IN 5 DOGS GO MISSING AFTER BEING SCARED BY FIREWORKS

More dogs go **MISSING** on the 4th of July than any other day of the year because the loud noises can scare even the **BRAVEST** dog.

KEEP YOUR BEST FRIEND AT EASE:

- EXERCISE DURING THE DAY.** Ensure your dog gets plenty of exercise during the day to tire them out
- STAY HOME.** Don't bring them to events where fireworks will be set off
- MAKE THEM FEEL SAFE.** Provide a safe place at home with music or the TV playing
- DISTRACTION.** Entertain them with their favorite toys and treats
- ACT NORMAL.** Don't acknowledge the fireworks, as your dog may be looking to you on how to react
- NAME TAGS.** Make sure your dog is wearing their collar with ID tags (better yet, microchipped!)

Source: www.aspc.org

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY