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Preventing Halloween Spooks for Your Pets

San Diego Humane Society Offers Tips to Keep Pets Safe on Halloween

SAN DIEGO — Creepy costumes, glowing jack-o-lanterns and candy galore make Halloween a treat for kids and grown-ups alike, but they can be seriously scary for our pets. To keep your pets safe and healthy this Halloween, San Diego Humane Society recommends keeping the following tips in mind.

Six Tips to Keep Pets Safe and Happy This Halloween:

- ***Stay In:*** Keep pets inside away from trick-or-treaters and other Halloween activities. To reduce stress levels, keep pets in an enclosed room with their favorite toys and with the television or radio on.
- ***Doorbell Damage Control:*** Excessive ringing of the doorbell can make some dogs bark and raise their stress levels. Consider leaving a note on your door that asks trick-or-treaters to lightly knock rather than ring the doorbell.
- ***Keep Sweets Out of Reach!*** Chocolate and other ingredients can be toxic to animals, so keep candy somewhere they won't be able to get into. Also, be mindful of wrappers and foil – they can be a choking hazard to animals.
- ***Costumes Are Not For Everyone:*** Just because animals look adorable in costumes, doesn't necessarily mean they like it! Don't make your pet wear a costume unless you're sure they enjoy it. A simple Halloween bandana can be a more comfortable alternative to a full costume.
- ***Use Caution with Halloween Decor:*** Keep jack-o-lanterns with flames out of reach of your pets. Or, only use flameless candles to prevent curious pets from getting burned. Also, use caution with fake cobwebs and other decorations that could be a choking hazard for your pet.
- ***ID Your Pet:*** Make sure that all of your pets are microchipped and wearing tags with a current ID. Opening the door repeatedly for trick-or-treaters creates plenty of escape opportunities for your pet. If your pet does go missing, a pet ID and microchip will help ensure a quick reunion. Microchips are offered at San Diego Humane Society's San Diego, Escondido and Oceanside Campuses for just \$15. Hours and locations can be found [here](#).

Contact your local shelter immediately if your pet is missing. [This chart](#) can help determine which shelter covers your area.

About San Diego Humane Society



Serving San Diego County since 1880, San Diego Humane Society's scope of social responsibility goes beyond adopting animals. San Diego Humane Society offers San Diegans a wide range of programs and services that strengthen the human-animal bond, prevent cruelty/neglect, provide medical care, educate the community on the humane treatment of animals and provide safety net services for all pet families needing assistance with keeping their pets.

As San Diego's oldest nonprofit organization, San Diego Humane Society has campuses located in Escondido, Oceanside, and San Diego as well as adoption centers inside Petco stores throughout San Diego County. San Diego Humane Society is supported solely through contributions, grants, bequests, investments, proceeds from the Muttique retail store and small fees for services. For more information or to view our current animals available for adoption; please visit www.sdhumane.org.

Suggested Tweet: Spare your pet the spooks of Halloween! Keep your pets safe and happy with @sdhumane's Halloween tips! <http://bit.ly/2dInKI>

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