Dogs have very sensitive ears. And unless they’ve been acclimated, the loud noises, bright lights, and unfamiliar smells of 4th of July fireworks can easily agitate your four-legged family member.

**SIGNS OF DOG STRESS**
- Cowering, shaking, or panting
- Unexpected whining, howling or barking
- Attempts to escape
- Hiding in unusual spots

**CALMING YOUR DOG**
- Don’t leave your dog home alone when fireworks are expected
- Use a crate or other safe and cozy space as a retreat
- Mask fireworks noise with the television or calming music
- Use toys, treats and interaction to distract your dog from the unfamiliar noise

**SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**
- Keep your dog inside with windows and doors completely closed
- Make sure your dog is wearing a collar with a tag, even if staying inside
- Going outside? Securely leash your pet — and be prepared if your dog attempts to escape
- If driving, be sure your dog is restrained in a crate or seatbelt harness

Lost dogs are a common problem this holiday. Help keep your dog as calm and safe as possible. That way, come July 5th, you and your furry friend can get back to summer fun.