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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND PROMOTES A PET-FRIENDLY 4TH OF JULY

As SPI prepares for 4th of July, officials also urge pet owners to have a pet-friendly holiday.

South Padre Island, TX – July 1, 2015: Many Independence Day celebrations come with fireworks and fun for most people however, that is not the case for pets. The boom and flash of fireworks in the sky often times scares and startles our furry friends and family. Pets may become aggressive and more vocal during pyrotechnic displays. It is best to leave them at home as they may be a danger to others as well as a flight risk if left unattended. Many pets become separated from owners in an attempt to escape the loud noises they perceive as being threats. Additionally, they may act in ways they normally do not because for them it is as if they are under attack. It isn't just fireworks that may endanger our beloved critters but the sun and alcoholic beverages as well. Just as we are susceptible to the sun's dangerous UV rays, so are our pets. Remember to use pet sunscreen available at pet stores and have plenty of water on hand during the hottest parts of the day. Never leave alcoholic beverages unattended and remember fire safety rules apply to our pets when barbecuing or using fireworks. "Many

pets go missing on the 4th of July," said Environmental Health Services Director Victor Baldovinos. This holiday season remember that pets can be injured or lost. More tips can be found on the American Veterinary Medical Association website: <https://www.avma.org/public/PetCare/Pages/travel.aspx>

Or these from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals: <https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/fourth-july-safety-tips>



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