

# **Dogs and fireworks often not a good combination**

Fourth of July fireworks are no fun for dogs. Historically, Washoe County Regional Animal Services is flooded with calls from pet owners searching for dogs that became lost while trying to flee from the loud noise of the fireworks.

On July 4-5, 2011, Regional Animal Services retrieved 73 lost dogs in a 24-hour period.

**Regional Animal Services offers the following safety tips to pet owners for the Fourth of July holiday:**

Before the fireworks start, bring and keep your dog inside;

Keep windows and doors closed;

Leave a radio, television, fan, or air conditioner on as these will help to lower the noise from outside

If you know your dog does experience extreme; anxieties to loud noises, it may be worthwhile to contact your veterinarian to see what recommendations they have;

The best way for everyone to get the most enjoyment from a firework display, is to leave your pets at home.

Regional Animal Services staff also encourages dog owners to make sure all pets have identification tags and microchips just in case they do get lost. This will expedite getting pets and their families reunited.