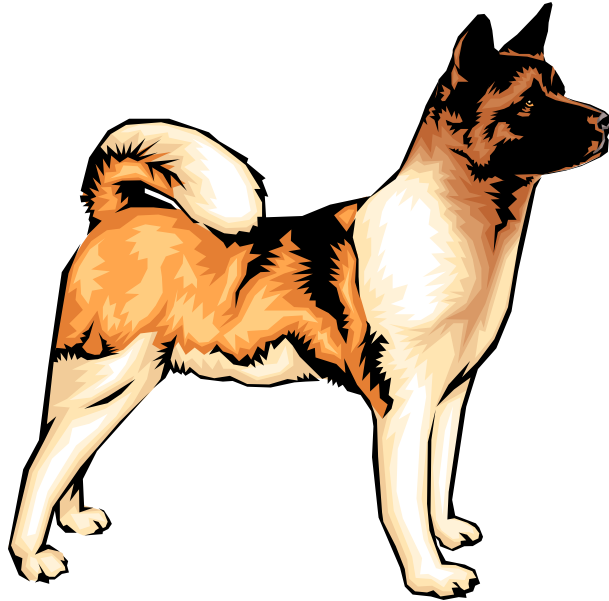


Dog Bite Prevention

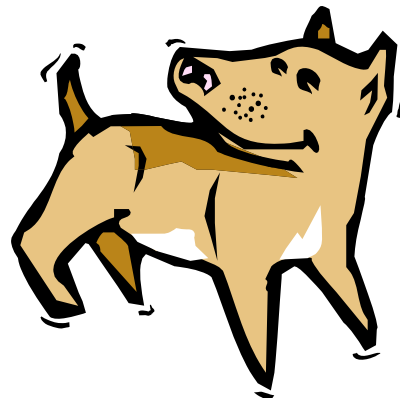
- **Any dog can bite, even a dog you know.**
- **Prevention is KEY!**

The Effects of Dog Bites



- **Physical Trauma**
 - Painful
 - Stressful
 - Disfiguring
 - Expensive
 - Fatal (rare)
- **Psychological Trauma**
 - Fear
 - Nightmares

In most cases, dog bites are not caused by “BAD” dogs so much as by irresponsible pet owners. Many people are attacked by dogs whose owners say “wouldn’t hurt a fly.”



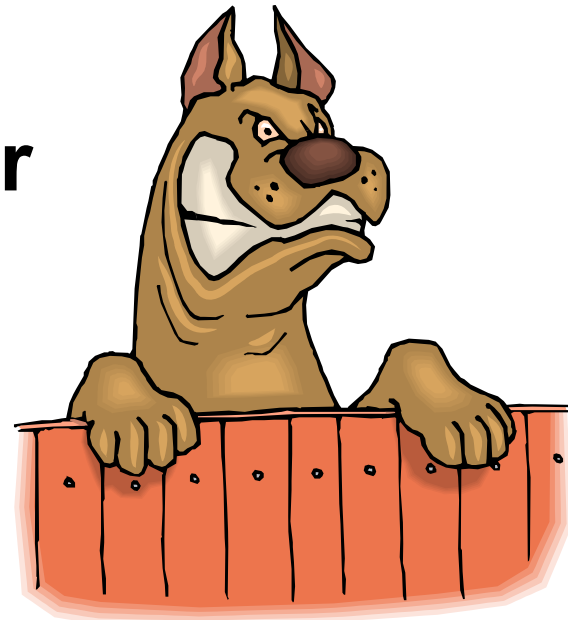
Why Would a Dog Bite?

- **Sick, hurt, in pain**
- **Teased**
- **Too excited**
- **Bothered while eating/sleeping**
- **Frustrated from being chained/tied up**
- **Trying to protect something**
- **Scared/startled**
- **Feels threatened**
- **To establish dominance**
- **Bred/trained to attack**



Warning Signs

- **Barking, growling, snapping, snarling**
- **They pull away when you try to pet them**
- **Stiff body, raised fur**
- **Bare teeth/curl lips**



TIP:

**A wagging tail
is not
necessarily a
sign that a dog
is friendly!**



Who is at Risk of Being Attacked by an Animal?

Animal Control Officers

Shelter Personnel

Cable TV

Repair Personnel

Mail/Letter Carriers

Delivery Persons

Law Enforcement

Meter Readers

Bicyclists

Pedestrians

Children

Joggers, walkers,

YOU!

Dog Bite Statistics

- **4.7 Million People are bitten by dogs each year**
- **Most Common Victim = Children 12 years old or younger**
- **Dog attacks send 334,000 people to the ER each year**
- **Dog bite victims account for up to 5% of all hospital ER visits**

Dog Bite Statistics Cont...

- **800,000 bites a year are severe enough to require medical treatment**
- **1-2 million dog bites go unreported each year**



If You See a Strange Dog

- Do not try to pet the dog
- Do not stare at the dog
- Do not run
- Try not to scream or make a lot of noise
- Do not throw things at the dog
- Put something between you and the dog



If You See a Strange Dog Cont...

- **Always face the dog**
- **If the dog approaches you, stay calm and stand still**
- **When the dog starts to leave, slowly back away**
- **Report loose dogs to Animal Control**



When Approaching a House

- **Beware of unfamiliar dogs**
- **Obey warning signs**
- **Be alert**
- **If you know there is a dog on the property, do something to attract the dog**
 - **Make noise or whistle**
 - **Rattle the gate**
- **Always carry something with you**
 - **Mail satchel**
 - **Halt**



When Approaching a House

Cont...

- **Know when a dog means business**
 - **Barking, snarling, ears are erect, appears ready to attack**
 - **Do NOT approach it!**
 - **Send warning letters to the dog owner if not at home**
- **If you have a dog warning card on this address and if the mailbox is close to any open door (even garage doors) do not deliver the mail**

If a Dog Attacks

- **Stand still**
- **Do not turn your back or run away**
- **Let the animal bite your satchel**
- **Keep something between you and the dog**
- **If you are knocked down, curl into a ball and lie still. Hide your face and protect your ears and neck with your arms**
- **Play dead**
- **If a dog bites do not pull away (try to make it release its hold)**
- **Report attacks to Animal Control and your supervisor**

More Tips

- **Watch out for dogs**
- **Size up the situation**
- **Do not show fear**
- **Do not startle a dog**
- **NEVER assume a dog won't bite**
- **Keep your eyes on the dog**
- **Stand your ground**



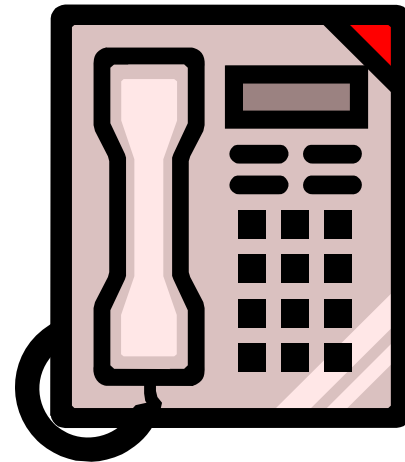


Dog Repellent

- Should only be used on dogs that attack.
 - Consists of cayenne pepper extract and inert gas (has a faint odor).
 - Safe, effective, and humane (vet approved).
-
- ◆ Spray directly into eyes, nose, & mouth of attacking dog.
 - ◆ Range is up to 10 feet.
 - ◆ Leaves a yellow stain on the dog's hair.
 - ◆ Dog will react by putting tail between legs and retreating.
 - ◆ Wears off in 10-15 minutes.
 - ◆ Humans may experience discomfort to the eyes (last approx. 10 min.).

If You Are Bitten?

- Wash the wound with soap & water
- Notify your supervisor
- Get medical attention no matter how small the bite or scratch may be
- Report the bite to the local animal control authorities
- Montgomery Co. MD
301-279-8000



Important Information

- **What does the dog look like?**
- **Where did you see the dog?**
- **Have you seen the dog before?**
- **Animal Control must quarantine the dog**
- **You may need treatment**



For Assistance Please Call

Montgomery County MD

Animal Control Office

301-279-8000