

OUTDOOR HOLIDAY SAFETY

Holiday weekends like Labor Day, the 4th of July, and Memorial Day are a time for celebration, barbecues, fireworks, family gatherings, and outdoor adventures. But for our furry friends, these fun-filled days often bring unexpected pet emergencies that land families in the ER. Our team at AERUP wants to help you keep your furry family members safe and healthy... and out of the ER.



Fireworks & Loud Noises

- Pets can panic, run away, or injure themselves.
- Keep pets indoors during fireworks.
- Set up a quiet, safe space with toys or calming music.
- Ask your vet about anti-anxiety medication if needed.



Heatstroke & Dehydration

- Signs: excessive panting, drooling, lethargy, vomiting, collapse.
- Never leave pets in cars — even for a few minutes.
- Provide plenty of fresh water and shade.
- Limit exercise during the hottest part of the day.



BBQ & Cookout Dangers

- Keep pets away from:
- Bones, corn cobs, skewers, and fatty foods
- Toxic foods like grapes, onions, garlic, and chocolate
- Alcohol and sugary drinks
- Tip: Seal trash tightly and remind guests not to feed scraps.



Foreign Object Ingestion

- Glow sticks, skewers, party decorations, and trash are tempting but dangerous.
- Swallowed objects can cause choking or blockages.
- Seek emergency care immediately if ingestion is suspected.



Lost Pets & Escapes

- Loud noises and open doors make it easy for pets to run off.
- Keep pets microchipped and ensure ID tags are up to date.
- Secure fences, gates, and doors.
- Keep pets indoors during fireworks and parties.



When to Seek Emergency Care

Call us or visit immediately if your pet has: Difficulty breathing, seizures or uncontrolled shaking, heatstroke signs, persistent vomiting or diarrhea, inability to urinate or defecate, severe bleeding or injuries, suspected poisoning or foreign object ingestion.

Holiday weekends are a time for celebration, but they also come with hidden hazards for our four-legged family members. With a little preparation, you can help keep your pets safe, healthy, and out of the ER. If your pet does experience an emergency over Labor Day, the 4th of July, or any holiday weekend, don't wait! Contact Animal ER of University Park or visit us immediately.