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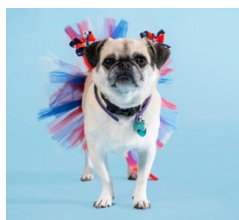
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Keep Pets Safe this July Fourth with Free Microchips & Waived Reclaim Fees

San Diego Humane Society offers tips and tools to prevent pets from ending up in shelters



SAN DIEGO — San Diego Humane Society is urging pet owners to plan and keep their animals safe over the July Fourth holiday. **July 1 is National ID Your Pet Day**, the perfect reminder to ensure pets have proper identification. To help, the organization is offering **free microchips through July 3** and **waiving reclaim fees through July 8** to make it easier for lost pets to return home.

With nearly 1,900 animals currently in care, the shelter is going into the holiday weekend at 142% capacity for dogs. Last year alone, **314 stray animals arrived at San Diego Humane Society between July 4-7**, yet only **72 (23%) were reunited with their families**.

“We want to do everything possible to prevent pets from getting lost, and to help lost pets return home quickly,” said Dr. Gary Weitzman, president and CEO of San Diego Humane Society. “Please keep pets safely indoors during fireworks and festivities.”

How to Protect Your Pet

- **Keep pets indoors** and secure doors, windows and yards.
- **Get a free microchip** at San Diego Humane Society vaccine clinics through July 3. Microchips are available by appointment at sdhumane.org/microchip or during open clinic hours. Walk-in fees for microchip-only services will be waived.
- **If your pet goes missing**, text **LOST** to **858-SAN-LOST (858-726-5678)** to access the free *Lost2Found* program and receive automated tips and resources. You can also search for your pet at sdhumane.org/lost.

Need to Reclaim a Pet?

Reclaim fees will be waived through **July 8** to help pets reunite with their families faster. Lost pets can be reclaimed:

- **July 5:** Extended hours, 10 a.m.–7 p.m.
- **Other days:** 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Tuesday–Sunday

San Diego Humane Society will be closed **July 4**, but staff will assist with lost or stray pets from **7 a.m.–4 p.m.** at shelter locations in San Diego, El Cajon, Escondido and Oceanside. Call **619-299-7012 (press 1)** upon arrival and a staff member will assist you.

For details on reclaiming a pet and what to bring, visit sdhumane.org/reclaim.

B-roll/photos for media use available to download here:

<https://spaces.hightail.com/space/dFnHhdoRPe>

Photo credit: San Diego Humane Society

About San Diego Humane Society

San Diego Humane Society's scope of social responsibility goes beyond adopting animals. We offer programs that strengthen the human-animal bond, prevent cruelty and neglect, provide medical care, educate the community and serve as a safety net for all pet families. Serving San Diego County since 1880, San Diego Humane Society has campuses in El Cajon, Escondido, Oceanside, Ramona and San Diego. For more information, visit sdhumane.org.

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