

General Tips to Help You Educate the Community about Dog Safety

- Children are the most frequent dog bite victims therefore; they need to be taught dog behaviour and respect for animals.
- Children need to be shown by example that animals have the right to be free from harassment or pain inflicted by human beings.
- Dogs should not be mistreated or teased because they can bite if annoyed, mauled or frightened. Children should not pull a dog's tail or take its food, bone or toys away.
- Dogs should not be disturbed while sleeping or eating.
- Monitor pets when children are playing with them to ensure that the dog does not become overexcited.
- Never allow inexperienced children to feed a dog because the dog could believe the child is taking the food away.
- Be cautious when children are around a dog who hasn't been raised around children as the dog can be intolerant and unpredictable.
- Dogs need human interaction. Leaving a dog constantly chained and alone may cause aggressiveness.
- Always keep your face away from dogs.
- If a person is chased while riding a bike, get off the bike and keep it between your body and the dog.
- Never break up an animal fight, even if it is your own pet.
- Notify The City of Calgary Animal Services of any sick or injured stray dogs.
- Do not approach stray dogs. Instead, stay away and notify The City of Calgary Animal Services.
- Ask permission before petting a dog who is with its owner. Wait for the dog to make the first overtures of friendship before letting it sniff your hand.
- If approached by a dog you don't know, stand like a tree.
- While standing like a tree, if the dog barks, growls or jumps up, lie like log.

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For general information about
Animal Services, preventing dog bites,
or a dog bite prevention presentation
for service providers:



Contact:

The City of Calgary Animal Services
Public Education Advisors
(403) 268-2002



The City of Calgary Animal Services
2201 Portland St. S.E.
Information & Complaints: call 3-1-1
www.calgary.ca/animalservices



Dog Bite Prevention for Service Providers

www.calgary.ca/animalservices
call 3-1-1



The role of The City of Calgary Animal Services is to ensure Calgary is a place where pets, their owners and neighbours live in safety and harmony.

These goals are achieved through:

- Promoting responsible pet ownership
- Licensing dogs and cats
- Enforcing animal related bylaws
- Public education
- Presentations: PAWS for Safety Dog Bite Prevention school program and Dog Bite Prevention for Service Providers
- Caring for animals impounded under the bylaws
- Cat and dog adoption programs
- Volunteer animal socialization programs

Reporting Procedure for Dog Bites

All dog bites need to be reported immediately to The City of Calgary Animal Services for investigation at 3-1-1. The following information is helpful:

- Date and time of the incident
- Where the incident occurred
- Where the dog lives
- The breed of dog
- Size of the dog
- Color of the dog
- Identifying features of the dog
- Was the dog wearing a collar, tag or licence?

First Aid for Dog Bites

- Disinfect the wound by washing the area with soap and water
- Loosely cover the bite with gauze
- See a doctor as soon as possible
- Ask the doctor if he recommends a tetanus injection

Dog Bite Prevention for Service Providers

Your Best Defense: Be Proactive

- Be alert, look, listen and be aware
- Expect a dog at every premise
- Expect that all dogs will bite
- Never run away or try to out run a dog

Be Aware of Sleeping Dogs

- Do not approach a sleeping dog
- Make a noise from a safe distance to alert sleeping dogs
- Watch for dogs lying in hidden places: under cars, bushes, porches or decks

Dogs Protect their Food or Toys

- Do not pet a dog or give it food even if it seems friendly
- Do not approach a dog chewing a bone or toy

Dogs Protect their Owner's Property

- Do not disregard posted warning notices at properties regarding dogs
- Make a noise alerting a dog before entering a fenced yard
- Do not expect a chain or rope to secure a dog
- Do not turn your back on a dog or allow it to get behind you
- If making a home inquiry, put your foot up against the screen door. If there isn't a screen, stand back a safe distance and be prepared in the event a dog is released.

Dogs Protect their Owners

- Do not get between a child or owner and their dog as the dog could get aggressively protective and bite
- Do not depend on the owner's ability to restrain their dog
- Take precautions even if the owner says their dog doesn't bite

Dogs Protecting their Puppies

- Do not approach dogs with puppies

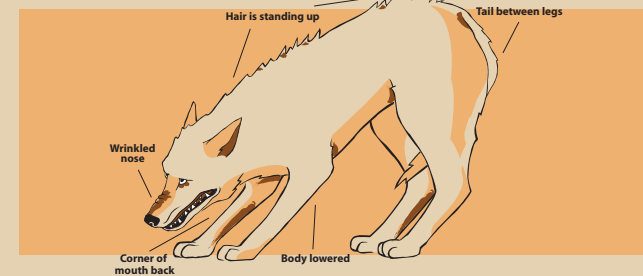
Types of Dogs That Bite

Any dog will bite. Biting is not exclusive to a specific breed or type of dog. Size is also not a factor: large and small dogs bite. There are two classifications of aggressive dogs: the fear biter and the brave biter.

The Fear Biter

Appropriate Response to a Fear Biter

- Stop walking, turn your body to face the dog and look into its eyes
- If the dog lunges or circles, pivot on your feet so you are facing the dog
- If the dog tries to bite, say "no" in a stern voice
- Keep a bag or object between you and the dog



The Brave Biter

Appropriate Response to a Brave Biter

- Stand still and try to relax
- Turn your body slightly to not directly face the dog
- Fold your arms and keep them up by your chest
- If the dog stands up on you, stand still
- Do not make direct eye contact with the dog
- Expect the dog to sniff you, your shoes or pants and then to leave
- If the dog leaves, slowly walk away keeping an eye on the dog

