

Spring is Finally Here

With the official start of spring and an increasing number of warm pleasant days many of us will be letting our dogs out into the back yard to enjoy the outdoors. As weather permits our pets will spend an increasing amount of time outside. Before we let them do this there are some things we need to do as responsible pet owners to ensure the safety of our family pets.

First and foremost is to make sure our pets are protected from disease and parasites. Pet owners need to make sure their animals are current on their vaccinations especially rabies.

The second thing that should be done is we need to inspect the fencing around our back yard to make sure there aren't any boards that need to be replaced or hole that need to be filled in. This is especially important if animals are going to be kept in a fenced in area for an extended period of time. The natural tendency of animals that have been cooped up inside during cold and inclement weather is that they want to get out and explore their surroundings. Some dogs will go to great lengths to get out of a fenced in area simply because they want to roam.

Finally, pet owners should make sure that all of their pets which will spend time outside are current with their Valley Center pet license and microchipped. Having a pet license and an animal that is microchipped will ensure their safe return home if they do happen to get out of a home or yard.

Traffic poses a real threat to the safety of our pets when they are allowed to run at large, even in a small town like Valley Center. Distracted motorists, people focusing on getting to work, and even responsible motorists who are watching the road ahead are not expecting a dog or other animal to runout into the roadway. It only takes a fraction of a second for a tragic event to occur resulting in the injury or death of a beloved animal. Please help keep all of Valley Center's pets safe, contact Animal Control if you see a stray or wandering dog.