

PRESS RELEASE



For Immediate Release
Oct. 19, 2007

Contact:
Debbie New
Animal Services
Phone: (972) 769-4360

Pat Evans
Mayor

Sally Magnuson
Mayor Pro Tem

Jean Callison
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem

Shep Stahel
Place 1

Scott Johnson
Place 2

Loretta Ellerbe
Place 3

Harry LaRosiliere
Place 5

Lee Dunlap
Place 8

Thomas H. Muehlenbeck
City Manager

Scaredy Cats & Dogs Don't Enjoy Halloween

The City of Plano Animal Services Division would like to remind pet owners that Halloween isn't fun for every family member, especially pets. The Humane Society of the United States provides these helpful hints to ensure the safety of your pet this Halloween:

- Keep pets safely inside, away from trick-or-treaters and other Halloween activities. This will ensure that pets won't become frightened or feel threatened at the sight of costumed children. In addition, frequently opened doors provide a perfect opportunity for escape, which can go unnoticed during all of the commotion. Be sure all pets are wearing a collar and ID tags in case of accidental escape. If your pet is microchipped, make sure your information is up to date in the microchip company's registry.
- Keep candy safely out of your pet's reach. Candy, especially chocolate, can be harmful, even toxic, to pets. Instead, have a few of your pet's favorite treats on hand.
- For their sake and yours, keep pets away from live flame decorations like candles and jack-o-lanterns, and restrict your pet's access to hanging decorations, such as streamers. Pets are curious and can become tangled or even choke if they chew on the decorations.
- Resist the urge to put your pet in a costume. With rare exception, pets don't like the constraints of "clothes." Additionally, masks and flowing capes can cause injury to your pet.
- Don't let the family dog accompany the kids on their trick-or-treat outing. Children may have a difficult time handling a pet during the festivities.