



BARK BUSTERS
HOME DOG TRAINING

National Dog Bite Prevention Week

May 21-27, 2006

*The Problem:**

- More than 4.8 million Americans are bitten each year
- In 2005, bites cost the property/casualty insurance industry \$317.2 million **
- 43% are children bitten by the family dog
- Majority of dog bites occur within pet owner's home
- Over 750,000 people require medical attention

Safety Tips for Parents:

- Do not allow your young child to discipline a dog
- Never leave a young child or baby alone with a dog
- Do not allow your child to feed a dog unsupervised
- Do not allow your child to pull on the dog's collar
- Do not allow your child to walk the dog unsupervised
- Do not allow your child to play aggressive games with any dog
- Teach your dog to be submissive, and respond to verbal commands

Safety Tips for Children:

- Never pet a strange dog, even if the owner is present
- Stay away from a dog while it is eating and sleeping
- Never retrieve a ball from someone else's yard
- Stay away from a dog that has puppies
- Stay away from a dog that is tied up
- Never pull a dog's ears or tail
- Never tease a dog or make it angry
- Stand totally still if a dog runs at you barking. Cover your face with your hands
- Do not yank your hands away if a dog "mouths" your hands
- If knocked to the ground by a dog, roll into a ball, cover your face with your arms, and stay as still as possible until the dog leaves.

Safety Tips to Follow When a Dog Approaches:

- Stand still, stand tall – don't move a muscle
- Face the dog at all times, but don't stare
- Don't look in the dog's eyes
- Allow the dog to smell you – they must come close
- Don't run
- Don't put your hand out
- Wait for the dog to lose interest
- Back away slowly, watching the dog from the corner of your eye

This information is brought to you as a public service by Bark Busters Home Dog Training – the world's largest, most trusted dog training company. More information about bite prevention can be obtained by contacting your local behavioral therapist, calling 1-877-500-BARK (2275), or visiting www.barkbusters.com.

* American Veterinary Association and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

** Insurance Information Institute

