



# NEWS RELEASE



City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services  
221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 500, Los Angeles, California 90012 / [www.LAAnimalServices.com](http://www.LAAnimalServices.com)

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## For Immediate Release

October 26, 2010

Contact: Brenda F. Barnette, General Manager

Email: [Brenda.barnette@lacity.org](mailto:Brenda.barnette@lacity.org)

Phone: (213) 482-9558

## HALLOWEEN PET SAFETY TIPS

*Make this holiday fun for your furry family members, too!*

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Halloween can be a festive and fun time of year for children and families, but for pets it can be stressful and even dangerous. Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS) provides these tips to help keep your furry family members safe this season:

- **KEEP YOUR PET INSIDE**

Keep your companion animals in a room away from the front door when trick-or-treaters are visiting. It is too easy for them to be frightened by the goblins and slip out the door.

- **UPDATE IDENTIFICATION**

This is the perfect time to make sure your pet is licensed, microchipped and wearing up-to-date identification. A dog license may just be the ticket to a reunion with your lost pet. LAAS offers microchipping at our Care Centers for \$25. If your pet is already microchipped, be sure the company has your current address and phone numbers on file.

- **FEED TREATS MADE FOR PETS**

Chocolate and other seemingly harmless ingredients can be poisonous to dogs and cats, so keep them out of reach. Dispose of the wrappers where pets can't get them to avoid choking. Also, remember that children may not understand why Fluffy can't share their treats, so use this as a teaching opportunity.

- **DECORATE WITH CAUTION**

Tail wagging is a good thing – unless it's done around a lit candle! Keep candles and lit Jack-o-Lanterns at an appropriate height where your pets can't knock them over or get burned.

- **KEEP COSTUMES SAFE**

A decorative collar is far more comfortable than a costume for your pet. The elastic in costumes can restrict circulation and restricted vision can lead to accidents. Loose-fitting costumes can become tangled and small, dangling pieces can create a choking hazard. Make sure your pet thinks a costume is as much fun as you do before you dress them up for Halloween.

By following these helpful tips, Halloween can be a fun and safe holiday for pets and people alike!

For more information or assistance call LA Animal Services at 1-888-452LA-PET1/1-888-452-7381  
(TTY Hearing impaired: 877-875-8205) or visit the website at [www.LAAnimalServices.com](http://www.LAAnimalServices.com)