

Humane Society of Elmore County News – 8 Dec '14

Rea Cord

Executive Director

Need an identification tag for your pet? Then look no further than our shelter as we can make personalized identification tags for your pet in just a few minutes. Prices range from \$7 - \$12 depending on the tag and for those tags that can be engraved on two sides there is an additional \$1 fee for engraving on both sides. We have many choices and can tell you that NOTHING will get your lost pet back home quicker than an ID tag with your contact info on it. Hint, hint – these would make great Christmas presents for pets and people alike! Stop by the shelter during our normal adoption hours of 10-5 Mon thru Fri & 9-3 Sat and we will be thrilled to make a tag to help keep your pet(s) safe.

The end of every year brings a lot of anticipation and activity for us humans as we start with Thanksgiving feasts, pull out Christmas decorations, have parties with family and friends that culminate with even more parties and fireworks to celebrate the end of one year and the beginning of another. We anticipate all the great events and plan for busy & active schedules. But is this how our pets view this time of year?

One key difference between our pets and us is that we are able to understand and anticipate future events while our pets live in the moment. So think of how the busy holidays may seem to your pet – they have been used to your family routines and schedules and now have to cope with weeks of increased activities (guests or parties perhaps); changes in the household (Christmas tree and decorations); lots of extra treats (leftovers or visitors who give treats); and oh those tempting wrapped presents under a starlit tree.

Why does this matter? If your pet seems a bit 'off' this time of year it just could be that it is in overload dealing with all the activity and changes to normal routines. To help your pet cope try to keep feeding and exercise schedules as near to normal as possible. Watch for overfeeding, especially of rich leftovers that can make your pet sick as no one wants to make an emergency trip to your veterinarian on Christmas day (in all seriousness – overeating rich human foods can be life threatening to your pet). Exercise is good for both man and beast so a nice walk, especially after a big meal, can keep you & your dog happy and healthy! If your dog or cat is stressed from too many strangers or children in the house, then move them, their food/water (and litter box) to one room and keep the door closed until everyone has left. This can also prevent a pet from becoming scared and escaping as people arrive and leave during a busy gathering.

And if your holiday schedule includes travel away from home we hope you have already made boarding or pet sitting plans for your pet so they will be safe and well cared for while you are gone. Knowing your pet is well taken care of while you are vacationing can also help you enjoy your trip that much more.

Don't forget that Santa will be joining us at the Shelter on Saturday, 20 December from 10 am – 1 pm, for photos with pets! You can take your own photo of your pet with Santa or we can help take a photo using your camera or smart phone. Any donated pet supply item would be greatly appreciated!

If you need to contact to ask a question just email us at hselco@bellsouth.net, call us at 334-567-3377, check out our website for lots of information at www.elmorehumane.org or join our [Humane Society of Elmore County Facebook Family](#) to follow our events and daily updates.