

Any Dog Can Bite

Even the friendliest dog in town has the potential to bite if provoked. Many people have been bitten by their own dog or one they know.

Dog bites are a serious problem, and dog bite victims requiring medical attention in the United States number approximately 800,000 annually. On average, about a dozen people die each year from dog bites. This brochure outlines steps you and your family can take to help prevent dog bites in our community.



People who are most at risk

Statistically, the number of recorded dog bites is higher in children than adults. In addition, the elderly and home service providers such as mail carriers and meter readers are also high on the list of frequent dog bite victims.

NEVER leave a baby or child alone with a dog.

BOROUGH OF PRINCETON

One Monument Drive
Princeton, New Jersey 08542
(609) 924-3118

PRINCETON TOWNSHIP

400 Witherspoon Street
Princeton, New Jersey 08540
(609) 924-5704

PRINCETON ANIMAL CONTROL

One Monument Drive
Princeton, New Jersey 08542
(609) 924-2728

All pictures used in this brochure were provided by the SAVE Animal shelter. These dogs could be up for adoption. For more information, contact SAVE.

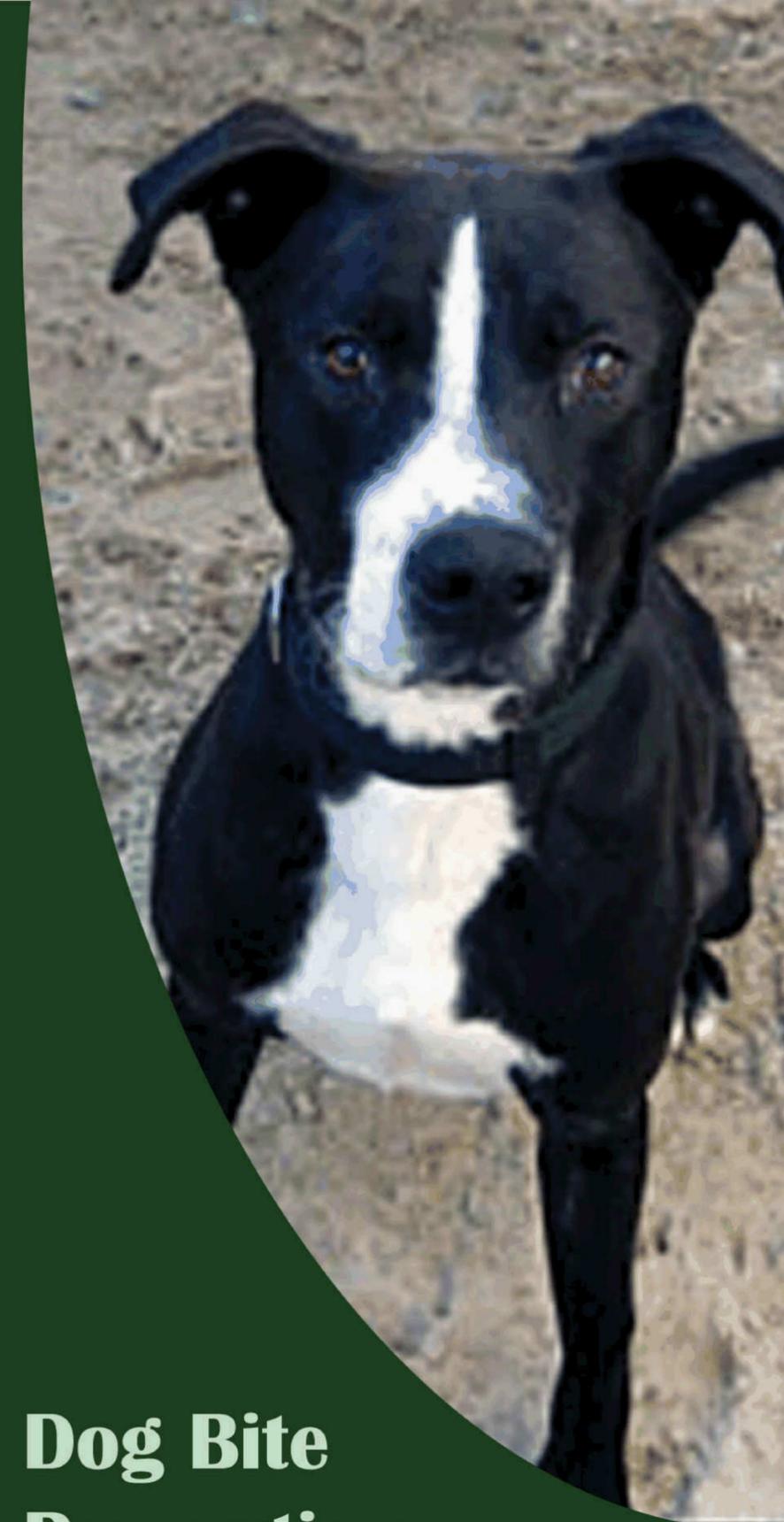
SAVE, A Friend to Homeless Animals

900 Herrontown Road
Princeton, NJ 08540
(609) 921-6122

www.savehomelessanimals.org

For more information regarding dog bite prevention, please visit
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/duip/biteprevention.htm>
<http://www.avma.org>

Brochure design was modeled after brochures provided by the City of Calgary Animal Services



Dog Bite Prevention



**Princeton Borough
Princeton Township**

www.princetonboro.org

www.princetontwp.org

Preventing Dog Bites

Basic safety precautions around dogs:

- * Do not approach an unfamiliar dog.
- * Do not run from a dog and scream.
- * Remain motionless (e.g., "be still like a tree") when approached by an unfamiliar dog.
- * If knocked over by a dog, roll into a ball and lie still (e.g., "be still like a log").
- * Do not play with a dog unless supervised by an adult.
- * Immediately report stray dogs or dogs displaying unusual behavior to an adult.
- * Avoid direct eye contact with a dog.
- * Do not pet a dog without allowing it to see and sniff you first.
- * If bitten, immediately report the bite to an adult.
- * **Be on the lookout for potentially dangerous situations.**
- * **Start teaching young children – including toddlers – to be careful around pets.**
- * **Never hold your face close to a dog.**

Children must be taught **NOT** to approach strange dogs.

Teach children to ask permission from a dog's owner before petting the dog.



Responsible Dog Owners

Responsible dog owners can help reduce the dog bite incidents in the community. Here are some things you can do to prevent your dog from biting others:

- * Spay or neuter your dog. Dogs not spayed or neutered are three times more likely to bite someone.
- * Train and socialize your dog so he/she is comfortable being around other people
- * Interact with your dog. Dogs tied or chained in a yard often become dangerous.
- * Never play attacking games with your dog. Your dog may not always understand the difference between play and real life.

Other tips that may prevent a dog bite

- * Don't run past a dog. Dogs naturally love to chase and catch things. Don't give them a reason to become excited or aggressive.
- * Never disturb a dog that's caring for puppies, eating, or sleeping.
- * If a dog approaches to sniff you, stay still. In most cases, the dog will go away when it determines that you are not a threat.

If you are bitten

If you are bitten, seek medical attention immediately. Next, contact authorities and report the incident.

The following information is useful for reporting a dog bite:

- * Date and time of incident
- * Where the incident occurred
- * Where the dog lives
- * Breed of dog
- * Size of dog
- * Color of dog
- * Identifying features of dog
- * Did the dog have a collar, tag, or license?



If your dog bites someone

In the event that your dog bites someone, it is important to take responsibility for your dog's actions by taking these steps:

- * Restrain the dog immediately. Separate it from the scene of attack. Confine it.
- * Check the victim's condition. Call 911 if paramedic response is required.
- * Provide information to report incident.
- * Comply with the Borough or Township ordinances.
- * Consult with your veterinarian.