

DOG DAYS

Post Offices Brace for Summertime Bites

Biting dogs are a danger all year but the danger is far more prevalent in the hot summer months — especially for your letter carrier.

More doors are open — more pets are outside — conditions are just “right” for dogs to put in for the neighborhood menace award by ripping away at the nearest postal uniform...and the carrier who is wearing it.

It's serious but the problem is not the dogs. It's the owners who neglect to control their pets. Both big and little dogs can do a lot of damage.

To see how serious the dog-bite problem is to the Postal Service, just take a look at these statistics:

- Somewhere in the country, every minute, a dog bites somebody.
- The “somebody” most often is your friendly neighborhood letter carrier, who just wants to get the job done and walk away in one piece.

What can you do, as a customer and a pet owner?

Plenty.

- Recognize that you are the key person responsible for controlling your pet.
- Teach each of your family members what they can do to help prevent dog bites.



- Make a commitment to control your pet.
- Let your letter carrier know you are taking action to protect him or her against bites.

Not only does the law require it, so does the Postal Service. Failure to control your pet can result in loss of delivery service!

But more than that: you owe it to yourself, and to your pet, to prevent the pain, lost work time, and general hassle that follows when your dog takes advantage of summer dog days (or any other days) to harm a letter carrier who is trying to perform a service to your household.



**Keep your
pet leashed,
fenced, or
confined.**



POSTAL CUSTOMER

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE



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