

Making **fireworks** less frightening for animals

How **you** can reduce the chances of fireworks frightening and injuring pets, livestock and wildlife

**1**

Go to an advertised, organised firework event

Owners can prepare their animals before an advertised event. Plus, attending these organised events reduces the overall number of fireworks disturbing animals.

2

If you want to have your own firework celebration, please only let fireworks off on traditional celebration dates

Diwali, Bonfire Night, New Year's Eve and Lunar New Year are occasions when most people expect fireworks and plan ahead to protect their animals.

Please use low-noise fireworks

These may reduce the likely fear and resulting stress caused to animals.

Let your neighbours know well in advance

That way, they can prepare any animals they look after – including horses and livestock that may be kept nearby in fields or buildings.

3

Never set off fireworks near livestock

Frightened animals, especially horses, can injure themselves – it's not unusual for horses to run through fences when frightened by fireworks. Horses can't be moved easily, so it's very difficult for owners to protect horses from firework noise.

4

Fireworks disturb wildlife

Don't let fireworks off near areas known to be wildlife habitats, such as lakes with waterfowl, and trees and buildings with roosting birds or bats.

5

Build any bonfire as close as possible to the time of lighting

Bonfires can kill wild animals such as hedgehogs, so make sure hedgehogs and other wildlife aren't sleeping in the pile when it's lit.

6

Pick up firework debris and litter after it has cooled down

Dispose of this safely as it can harm animals. Avoid aiming fireworks over fields or other countryside where it won't be possible to pick up the debris and litter.

rspca.org.uk/fireworks