

# Dog Bite Prevention

## Don't Invite a Bite!

Dogs may bite for a variety of reasons...fear of a strange person, territorial aggression, protecting a litter of puppies, etc. Dogs who are injured or not properly socialized with people are also more prone to biting out of fear.

### To avoid becoming the victim of a bite, follow these tips:

- Never approach a dog you do not know.
- Assume any dog you don't know, may bite.
- Avoid direct eye contact with aggressive dogs.
- Never disturb a dog who is sleeping, eating or protecting puppies.

### If a strange dog approaches you:

- Remain calm ~ do not scream or yell.
- Freeze and remain still. Avoid sudden movements. Above all, do not run, as this invites a chase.
- Turn your head away slightly, avoid direct eye contact.
- Be patient. Wait until the dog loses interest and back away slowly.

### If you are attacked by a dog:

- Seek cover and try to use any object you have to place between you and the dog ~ a coat, book bag, etc.
- Try to stay on your feet.
- If knocked down, curl into a ball on your knees and use your arms to protect your face and neck.

### Report dog bites to:

- To the Columbiana County Health Board 330-424-0272