

What Would You Do?

When Your Pet Meets A Guide Dog Team



Guide dogs are specially trained to help people who are blind or visually impaired travel safely and independently to work, school, or anywhere they desire. A guide dog and a blind person work together as a team.

GUIDE DOG TEAMS NEED YOUR HELP! The safety of a guide dog team depends largely on the guide dog's ability to focus on its work. When dogs that are loose or poorly controlled interfere with this work, both team members can be harmed.

Did you know...

- More than **40 PERCENT** of all guide dog teams have been attacked, and close to **90 PERCENT** have experienced interference from dogs that are either loose or poorly controlled by their handlers.
- Dogs that are leashed but poorly controlled account for **ALMOST HALF** of the attacks on guide dog teams.
- Attacks and interference can **PERMANENTLY DAMAGE** a guide dog's ability to work safely and effectively.
- **ANY DOG**, regardless of size or breed, can pose a serious threat to a guide dog team if not properly controlled – even a family pet.
- People who are blind face attacks and interference without the ability to use vision to protect themselves or their guide dogs.
- In New Jersey, **DUSTY'S LAW** (Statute 2C:29-3.2), penalizes pet owners whose dogs physically harm or interfere with a guide dog team or a guide dog puppy.
- Attacks on guide dog teams and guide dog puppies in training can have devastating consequences on the guide dog, the blind person, and even a sighted individual training a guide dog or puppy.

Help Prevent Attacks and Interference on Guide Dog Teams and guide dog puppies.

Keep Your Dog Under Good Control At All Times

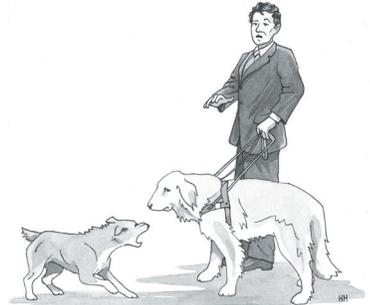
For more information, contact The Seeing Eye
at (800) 539-4425
or visit www.seeingeye.org/protect



What Should You Do When Your Pet Encounters a Guide Dog Team? Remember to **STOP**:

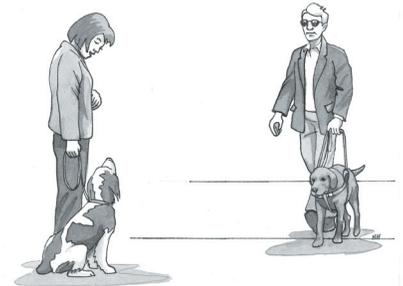
Stay back. Never let your pet near a guide dog team, even if your dog is leashed. Guide dogs are working animals and must **NEVER** be distracted from their duties.

It's essential to keep your dog under good control at all times.



Having your dog uncontrolled at the end of a long leash, allowing the dog to run off-leash in a public area, or leaving your dog unattended in an unfenced yard endangers both the guide dog team and your own dog.

Tell the blind person about your dog's presence when approaching or passing by a guide dog team. A simple greeting of "Hi, I have a dog with me" is often appreciated.



Offer assistance to a blind person if you witness an attack or interference on a guide dog team. If it is your dog that causes harm, take responsibility for its actions.



Protect others, especially guide dog teams, by reporting any loose dogs roaming about in your neighborhood to the local police and animal control offices.



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Duplication is encouraged.