



Pet Rescue 101

The best way to protect your dog from injury is to keep him inside your yard. If dogs are loose and unsupervised they are at risk of getting hit by a car or attacked by another dog. Dogs fight over territory, food, or something just because they are jealous. If your dog is not getting enough attention he could become jealous and fight your other dog or he may even stray away from home.

When a dog gets hurt, you might end up with the job of nursing him. This happens quite a bit in remote

areas when the nearest vet is too far away to help immediately.

If your dog has an open wound where you can see underneath the skin you should first give it a good wash. Use either a medicated shampoo or saline (salt water) to give the wound a thorough clean out. One teaspoon of salt dissolved in one cup of warm water makes a good wound flushing solution. The chemist can also sell you saline already made up.

Even small bite holes should be rinsed and any scabs pulled off. This lets any infection building up under the scab drain out. Otherwise the bite may turn into an abscess which puts toxins into your dog's blood stream and makes him sick.

You will also need to keep flies from hanging around your injured dog because they spread bacteria with their feet. Flies may also lay maggots on the wound making it 'flyblown'. If you can't keep him inside away from flies, then you

could use a fly spray like Rid that is safe for human skin. It is best to spray this on the dog's hair a little away from the wound NOT into the wound.

Sometimes a bandage is useful to protect a wound from dirt and flies. If you do use a bandage, it must be changed every day. This gets rid of the fluid, which discharges out of a wound.

Usually the dog will need antibiotics as well. He will need you to take him to the vet to get an injection of penicillin, antibiotic tablets and maybe even something for pain. If he has not been vaccinated he may need a tetanus shot as well.

It is best to think ahead so your dog does not get injured. That way you save him the pain and yourself the work. But if he does get accidentally hurt, you should get him to the vet as soon as possible to prevent complications.

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH DR. JO
THURSDAY ISLAND:
July 27th & July 28th. Contact Torres Shire
Council for bookings: Ph. 4069 1336
CAIRNS:
Dr. Jo's mobile service Ph. 0408 779 820

Jo Squire Mobile Vet



0408 779 820

