



9-Year-Old Continues Recovering After Dog Attack

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(LOUISVILLE) -- A 9-year-old boy continues recovering after being attacked by a neighbor's dog. It happened about 9 o'clock Monday night in the 4300 hundred block of Pacelli Place in east Louisville. The Akita that bit him is now in the custody of Metro Animal Control and will be put down. WAVE 3's [Anne Marshall](#) reports.

At the Metro Animal Shelter -- in between the neglected and sick dogs and in the middle of the dangerous ones -- an ending.

And the story is one you've heard before. Says Animal Control Spokesperson Jackie Gulbe: "that's where most of the bites occur is an unneutered male dog and a child under the age of 10."

In Monday's attack, an Akita broke free from his owner and attacked a little boy who was walking by.

"I heard a dog going off and people screaming 'No!' and I look outside and a dog is on top of a little kid," said Nikki Lester, who saw it all happen right in front of her home.

She and other neighbors tried to call 9-1-1 for the boy who appeared injured, as "he took off running and blood was running down side of his neck."

It's unknown what caused the dog to bite, but Gulbe says a possible solution is simple. "I really wish this community would get the message spaying and neutering is the responsible thing to do."

According to the Humane Society, Louisville has twice the number of dog euthanizations as the national average, a sign of overpopulation, indicating neutering and spaying is not taking place.

Gulbe says problems with dogs decrease when they're neutered because "it helps kill" their aggressive and roaming tendencies.

Besides witnessing Monday's dog attack, Lester has also been a victim herself. "I've gotten bit by a stray before, so it doesn't help matters any."

What frightens her more than what she saw is the "what if." She and her 17-month-old, Keely, usually play outside. "She was in bed asleep and we were gonna bring her outside, but it makes me terrified. I don't want to bring her outside."

Animal control officials say Akitas can be aggressive breeds...but also notes a Beagle was put down this morning for biting someone. Neighbors say they didn't have any problems with the Akita before.



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