

[<<Back](#)

Reported by Lacey Griffith

Dog Attacks 7-Year-Old Girl in Seaford

Updated: April 3, 2009 09:23 AM EDT



Jennifer Wilhelm tends to the dog bite wounds of her 7-year-old daughter Makayla. (Photo: WBOC)

SEAFORD, Del. - A week ago in Seaford a dog attacked 7-year-old girl Makayla Wilhelm.

A bandage still covers the marks on Makayla's right arm and blood stains remain on the steps out front.

Makayla was playing in her neighbor's yard with friends when the attack happened.

"The next thing she knew the dog came running across the street and attacked her," her mother Jennifer Wilhelm said.

Makayla added, "It felt really bad and I was in pain."

The dog's owners have a fenced-in backyard. They did not answer phone calls.

Jennifer said animal control officers should have stricter rules because this was not the first time her daughter was attacked by the same dog. She said the dog should have been dealt with before last week's attack.

"Animal control didn't even take the dog," Jennifer said. "They had to relinquish it voluntarily for it to be put to sleep."

However, animal control officials say they held the dog in quarantine both times and has since put the animal to sleep.

The neighbor who lives in the house where the attack took place said she did not expect it.

Kelly McCarthy said, "We didn't really foresee it. We always thought the dog was going to be locked up in the backyard, so we just pretty much thought it was going to be safe."

Animal control officials said they were unable to determine if the dog's owner could have prevented the attack and added he hopes to see stricter rules in the future.

Makayla's mother said Makayla has not gone back to school, but Makayla said her arm is starting to feel better.



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