

BITE BACK

with Muzzle® Pepper Spray

by Margaret White

THE U.S. CENTER FOR DISEASE Control (CDC) reports that 4.5 million Americans are bitten by dogs each year. Whether you enjoy outdoor activities such as bicycling, walking, or jogging—or have a delivery job that requires you to visit different neighborhoods daily—chances are you will encounter a stray dog sooner or later.

Fortunately, these encounters aren't always going to end with Fido trying to sink his teeth into your leg. A curious dog may check you out with a sniff or two and be on its way. Dogs are territorial by nature and may growl and bark to let you know you're invading their space. In many cases the dog will be satisfied that his bark is enough, but remembering these key points will help you prevent a dog from attacking:

- Remain calm, avoid making sudden movements or loud noises



- Avoid making direct eye contact with the dog
- If the dog approaches you, remain motionless; do not run or scream

The best measure of protection against dog attacks, is to carry a deterrent. Mace brand Muzzle® Pepper Spray is specifically formulated for use against dogs. A burst of Muzzle® to their snout should effectively deter just about any dog from attacking. Mace brand Muzzle® is designed with

a finger grip dispenser that helps you properly aim the unit. It features a belt clip and key chain so it's convenient to carry, and the flip-top safety cap prevents accidental discharge.

Animal sprays are regulated by the EPA. Muzzle® is a safe, effective and humane way to protect yourself from a potential dog bite. Don't become a statistic; carry Mace®, just in case! ●

Margaret White is a sometimes cynophobe who never walks outdoors without carrying her pepper spray.



Be prepared!

Being familiar with how your pepper spray works is just as important as carrying it with you. The finger grip design and flip-top safety cap of the Muzzle® unit make it easy to tell the unit is aimed properly. It has an effective range up to 10 feet.

Carry your unit where it's easy to access. If you sense that a stray dog may become aggressive, position the unit in your hand, and be ready to fire.

Aim the pepper spray at the facial area of the dog. You want to hit it in the snout. A dog with pepper spray in his nose, mouth or eyes, suddenly has a lot more to worry about than you.



The author can attest to the effectiveness of pepper spray after witnessing the neighbor's Doberman Pinscher losing a standoff with a postal worker who carried pepper spray clipped to his belt.

WHERE TO BUY: Muzzle® is available from Mace Personal Defense, Inc. on the web at www.mace.com, or call toll-free 1-800-255-2634. Look for Muzzle® and other Mace brand products at your local hardware, sporting goods, automotive or security retailer.