



## In This Issue...

- Man's Best Friend? Take Care to Avoid Dog Bites
- What Is the Relationship Between Social Security Disability and Workers' Compensation?
- Recipe of the Month: Beef and Watermelon Stir-fry
- What's Happening In & Around Youngstown, Warren, Salem, Akron, Ravenna

## Man's Best Friend? Take Care to Avoid Dog Bites



Are you a dog lover? Are you tempted to make friends with every canine that you see? Dogs are wonderful pets, but they can be unpredictable and can bite when provoked or scared.

A dog attack is a terrifying experience, and large numbers of people suffer dog bites every day. The CDC reports that more than 4.5 million Americans are bitten by dogs each year – and 350,000 of these bites are serious enough to require emergency medical treatment.

### Dog Bites May Cause Serious Injuries

Beyond a playful nip, a dog attack may result in:

- Puncture wounds
- Lacerations
- Infections
- Fractures
- Internal tissue damage

In addition to physical wounds, a dog bite victim may suffer from emotional damage, including PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder), that may persist for a long time. Victims may experience symptoms like headaches, paranoia, anxiety, nightmares or unusual behavior.

### How to Help Prevent a Dog Bite

If possible, stay away from an unfamiliar dog. Even with a dog that you know, never interrupt a dog when it is sleeping or eating.

It may not be reasonable to expect that you can avoid a dog bite, but you can take action to minimize the risk of an attack from a strange dog:

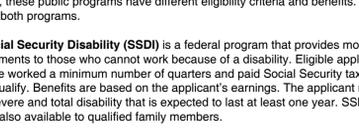
- Try to remain calm
- Stay still
- Say "No" or "Go away" firmly
- Keep your hands and arms close to your body
- Protect yourself, if necessary, by curling up into a ball and use your hands to shield your face, ears and neck

It is especially important to protect children from dog bites. Even if you know the animal, don't leave a child alone with a dog. It's a fact that 75% of dog bite incidents involve familiar dogs that belong to a family member or friend. Children should never put their faces near a dog's mouth.

Read more about children and dog attacks at [SafetyAroundDogs.org](#).

Get medical care right away if you or a family member experience a dog bite and call your local Animal Control. Take photos of the animal, the injuries and the scene. To determine if you are eligible for compensation for your injuries, contact an attorney experienced in Ohio dog bite cases.

## What Is the Relationship Between Social Security Disability and Workers' Compensation?



Programs like Social Security Disability and Workers' Compensation may seem to offer duplicate benefits. They both provide payments for those who are disabled.

However, these public programs have different eligibility criteria and benefits. Let's take a look at both programs.

- **Social Security Disability (SSDI)** is a federal program that provides monthly payments to those who cannot work because of a disability. Eligible applicants must have worked a minimum number of quarters and paid Social Security taxes (FICA) to qualify. Benefits are based on the applicant's earnings. The applicant must have a severe and total disability that is expected to last at least one year. SSDI benefits are also available to qualified family members.
- **Workers' Compensation (WC)** is a state insurance program for workers who experience job-related injuries or illnesses. Benefits include coverage for hospital and medical expenses as well as disability payments – for example, two-thirds of salary. Other benefits, such as retraining and rehabilitation, may also be available.

### Is It Possible to Collect SSDI and WC at the Same Time?

Yes, in certain circumstances you may be able to collect both benefits at the same time.

WC is designed to be temporary protection to give workers who have been injured on the job some continuing income while they either get better or wait for SSDI eligibility.

There is a limit to the total income that you can receive from WC and SSDI combined. When added together, the total may not be more than 80% of your prior income. When your total is greater, your SSDI benefit will be adjusted; however, if your WC payments run out, your SSDI benefit will be adjusted back up.

If you or a loved one has been harmed by any type of personal injury or has been denied Worker's Compensation or Social Security Disability (SSD) benefits, it's important to get an attorney experienced in these types of cases involved immediately. Call 1-800-589-6611 for your initial, free consultation, either in our office or if you are unable to travel by telephone conference. Heller, Maas, Moro & Magill, Co., LPA, a workplace injury and Social Security disability law firm located in Youngstown, can help you navigate the application process for the best possible outcome for you and your family.

## Recipe of the Month Beef and Watermelon Stir-fry



The sweet heat of this beef dish is surprisingly refreshing. Fresh juicy watermelon and sweet sugar snap peas deliver a satisfying crunch in every bite. Garnish with fresh cilantro for extra zing.

### Ingredients

- 1 pound sirloin strip steak, cut into thin strips
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 teaspoons cornstarch
- 2 teaspoons cold water
- 1 ½ teaspoons sesame oil
- 2 tablespoons dry white wine
- 2 tablespoons hot water
- 2 tablespoons hoisin sauce
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- ½ teaspoon ground black pepper
- 2 tablespoons canola oil, divided
- 1 medium-size sweet onion, halved and sliced
- 12 ounces fresh sugar snap peas
- 1 teaspoon grated fresh ginger
- ½ teaspoon dried crushed red pepper
- 16 ounces watermelon, rind removed and cut into sticks (about 2 cups)
- 2 cups hot cooked rice

### Directions

Toss together first 6 ingredients and 1 Tbsp. wine. Let stand 30 minutes. Meanwhile, stir together hot water, hoisin, and remaining 1 Tbsp. wine.

Remove beef from marinade, discarding marinade. Sprinkle with salt and black pepper; cook half of beef in 1 1/2 tsp. hot canola oil in a large skillet over high heat, without stirring, 45 seconds or until browned; turn beef, and cook 30 seconds or until browned. Transfer to a warm plate. Repeat with remaining 1 1/2 tsp. oil and beef.

Stir-fry onion in remaining 1 Tbsp. hot canola oil in skillet over medium-high heat 2 minutes or until tender. Add sugar snap peas, ginger, and crushed red pepper; stir-fry 2 minutes. Add beef and hoisin mixture; stir-fry 1 minute or until slightly thickened. Remove from heat. Stir in watermelon. Add salt, black pepper, and red pepper to taste. Serve immediately with hot cooked rice.

Recipe courtesy of Southern Living



## What's Happening In & Around Youngstown, Warren, Salem, Akron, Ravenna

**Aug 1**  
Greater Alliance Carnation Festival: Rib Fest  
Carnation Mall  
Canton, OH

**Aug 2**  
Vintage Ohio Wine Festival & a Little Brew, too  
Lake Metroparks Farmpark  
Akron, OH

**Aug 21**  
Daryl Hall & John Oates  
Covelli Centre  
Youngstown, OH

**Aug 27**  
Steely Dan  
The Youngstown Foundation Amphitheatre  
Youngstown, OH

**Sep 20**  
Rascal Flatts  
Blossom Music Center  
Cuyahoga Falls, OH

**Sep 26**  
Amy Grant  
Canton Palace Theater  
Canton, OH

**Sep 28 - 29**  
Stow Historical Society Harvest Festival  
Heritage Barn at Silver Springs Park  
Stow, OH

**Oct 12**  
Gaither Vocal Band  
W. D. Fackard Music Hall  
Warren, OH

**Oct 27**  
Youngstown Marathon  
Second Sole Boardman  
Youngstown, OH

**Oct 30**  
Glenn Miller Orchestra  
Stambaugh Auditorium  
Youngstown, OH

## Follow us...



## Meet Our Attorneys



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