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## **Safety Checklist**

### ***The Basics:***

- The dog is microchipped and the information is up to date
- Identification, registration, vaccination tags are up to to date and easy to read
- Collar, leash, harness and all equipment is properly adjusted and in good condition
- A contact list has been compiled that includes any family member, friend, walker, doorman, housekeeper, nanny, etc. who might be helpful in an emergency
- Every person who handles the dog has rehearsed emergency plans

### ***Training:***

- The dog has excellent recall (come here) training
- All training cues that could be helpful in an emergency are known to everyone who handles the dog (stop, touch, stay, leave it, etc.)
- Additional training has been done (clicker training, recall to whistle, recall to squeaker, recall to treats, recall to other rewards: tug, fetch, ball, etc.)
- "Treat" Saves Life! training has been installed and maintained

### ***Risk vs. Reward Assessment:***

- Know your dog. Is s/he new to the area? Skittish? Prey-driven? Young? Unpredictable? Poorly trained? Of a breed known to be troublesome off-leash? Prone to playing "keep-away?" The risk of escape is increasing
- Ensure that daily activities are providing rewards that greatly outweigh risks of loss

### ***Dogs & Children:***

- Children and their friends have been taught NEVER to chase the dog in any circumstance. A dog who sees running away as a game is at tremendous risk
- Children have been taught to GET DOWN in an emergency and entice and coax the runaway dog. Thoughtful kids can be a great lure for panicked pups!

### **A note of thanks to Tony and Christina from [luketogwalkernyc.com](http://luketogwalkernyc.com)**

for their generous donation of time and expertise in helping teach responsible and safe dog handling techniques. See their website for top-rated walking & boarding services.