

Dog, owner injured after pit bull attack

Originally published March 01, 2007

By No writer

FREDERICK — An 8-year-old Australian Shepherd and his owner were attacked by three loose pit bulls on Dover Circle about 6 p.m. Wednesday, said Harold Domer, director of Frederick County Animal Control.

The pit bulls, owned by Eugene and Daisy Sappington of Dover Court, came onto Jan Roberts and Christine Houweling's property and fought with their dog, Domer said. Roberts tried to separate the dogs and was bitten on the left hand, Houweling said. Doctors were unable to stitch the wound, she said.

The injured dog had to have one of its ears stitched back on and had several tubes placed in its body to drain the puncture wounds, Houweling said.

Animal Control had receive several previous reports of the pit bulls running at large, Domer said. The dogs have current rabies shots.

An investigation by animal control officers will determine whether the dogs will be deemed potentially dangerous, Domer said. If they are, the owners will have to follow rules, including keep their dogs in an enclosure on the property and paying a fee.

The dogs are now being quarantined for 10 days at the Sappington home, Domer said.

"I'm afraid to go outside," Houweling said. "Children are scared to go to the bus stop."

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