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## TIPS TO REDUCE ANXIETY/FEAR WITH NOISE PHOBIAS

- <u>Types of noise phobias</u>:
  - o fireworks, smoke detectors, trash trucks, gardening equipment
- <u>Desensitization therapy works best</u>
  - Play the fearful sound at low volume until your pet no longer reacts while giving a high value treat (positive reinforcement)
  - Gradually increase the volume over time until you reach levels that mirror real life
- <u>Sedatives like trazodone can be useful for mild-moderate anxiety</u>
  - Benefits include true anti-anxiety effect
  - Great for occasional or as needed use
- <u>Severe noise phobias, like 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks, require pre-planning</u>
  - Have a safe place for your pet to go
  - $\circ~$  Arrange to stay home or have someone stay with your pet
  - If your pet is likely to harm themselves in panic, consider use of Sileo for 4<sup>th</sup> of July, New Years Eve, etc.