

Animal Disaster Planning Guide

We strongly encourage everyone to remember their pets when planning for emergencies.

If you aren't safe in your home, neither are your animals.

In case of an evacuation order:

Do not leave your animals behind to fend for themselves. Your pet could be lost, injured or killed during the disaster. When threatening conditions arise, confine your animals so you can leave with them quickly if necessary. Don't abandon them and, under no circumstances, leave them chained or locked in buildings or cages from which they cannot escape. Evacuate promptly before the disaster hits to avoid the possibility of needing rescue. There is no guarantee that whoever comes to save you will also be equipped to take your animal. While the PETS Act requires government entities to be prepared to handle pets during evacuations, depending on the severity of the incident, other rescuers may not have that capacity. Evacuating early with your family and your pet(s) is the best way to ensure you all are safe and together.

In case of a viral outbreak:

Depending on the disease, animals may be susceptible to certain viral infections. Wash your hands, disinfect all surfaces and limit contact with others if you start exhibiting symptoms. If you test positive for a viral infection, your pet should be a part of your family's quarantine. Minimize contact with your pet while you are sick and do not send them to boarding or daycare. Check with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) at cdc.gov and the World Health Organization (WHO) at who.int for any additional instructions regarding contagious diseases and pets.

Have a Plan. Share Your Plan.

Every family should have a disaster plan, regardless of whether you live in an area that is commonly affected by severe weather. All family members should know the plan, including what essential items need to be packed last minute. Talk with your neighbors about emergency access to each other's homes and research what plans your community already has in place.

Your Pet's Information

- Date of last rabies vaccination: _____
- Rabies tag #: _____
- Microchip #: _____
- Identifying features: _____

Medications/Treatments:

- Medication: _____ Due Date: _____
- Medication: _____ Due Date: _____
- Medical conditions: _____

Emergency Kit Supplies

- Collar & tags
- Pet carrier
- Medications
- First aid kit
- Copies of vaccination records
- Leash
- 1-2 weeks of food
- Towels
- Food/water bowls
- Litterbox supplies or pet waste bags

Notes

COVID-19 Planning Guide

We strongly encourage everyone to remember their pets when planning for emergencies.

As the situation develops and more research is being done regarding transmission, updates regarding the susceptibility of domesticated pets to COVID-19 will continue to come in.

Keep an eye on the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website at cdc.gov for up-to-date information regarding COVID-19.

COVID-19 Symptoms

Fever - Cough - Sneezing - Shortness of breath

Risk Factors

While any human can become infected, not all those with the virus may exhibit symptoms. People older than 60, those with preexisting respiratory conditions and immunocompromised individuals are at the highest risk. If you fall into one of those categories of at-risk individuals, or if you frequently associate with an at-risk individual, it is important that you take extra precautions to prevent the spread of disease. This includes reducing your pet's contact with these individuals.

If you are at a higher risk of becoming seriously ill due to exposure to COVID-19, consider making arrangements with someone to care for your pet in the event you are hospitalized.

Can I get COVID-19 from my pet?

There is currently no evidence that companion animals can be infected. One dog in Hong Kong registered a weak positive for COVID-19 and is in quarantine, but has not shown any signs of illness.

However the virus can be transmitted if an infected person sneezes or coughs on a pet's fur and a non-infected person touches that pet. Wash your hands frequently and limit contact with your pet.

If you believe you are sick...

If at all possible, stay home. Consult with your employer or school regarding emergency quarantine policies. This applies to your pets as well. Do not take your dog to the dog park, keep your cat indoors, and do not take your pet to a dog daycare.

Your Pet's Information

- Date of last rabies vaccination: _____
- Rabies tag #: _____
- Microchip #: _____
- Identifying features: _____

Medications/Treatments:

- Medication: _____ Due Date: _____
- Medication: _____ Due Date: _____
- Medical conditions: _____

Pet Emergency Kit Supplies

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collar & tags | <input type="checkbox"/> Leash |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pet carrier | <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 weeks of food |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medications | <input type="checkbox"/> Towels |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First aid kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Food/water bowls |
| <input type="checkbox"/> copies of vaccination records | <input type="checkbox"/> Litterbox supplies or pet waste bags |

Preparing to Quarantine

While stocking up on supplies for a planned quarantine, remember your pet's needs as well. Ensure that they have adequate food and medication for at least 14 days of isolation. Make sure your Pet Emergency Kit is restocked prior to quarantine. A list of suggested items is above.

Please note: medical and veterinary facilities are at the highest risk of disease circulation. Please avoid stockpiling masks and gloves if you are not ill. Please do not surrender your pet to a shelter if you or your pet have been exposed to COVID-19.