

PETS and COVID-19

Humane Society
FOR SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON



You may have seen recent reports in the media about cats, dogs, and even a tiger that have been diagnosed with COVID-19. We've been keeping a close eye on the rapidly changing developments, and we continue to follow the experts' recommendations and guidelines when caring for shelter animals.

Because it seems likely that humans infected with COVID-19 can potentially transmit the virus to their pets, the CDC and others have issued a recommendation that if you become ill, you should limit close contact with your pets. The most important thing you can do at this time is to make a plan.



A pet plan includes:

Temporary caregiver

In the event you are hospitalized or need to be separated from your pet, identify two people that can care for your dog or cat temporarily.

Prepare a pet supply kit

- Name/contact information for the person who will care for your pets
- Name/contact information of the backup person
- Food, treats, leash, toys and other supplies for at least two weeks
- A crate or carrier to transport your pet
- Health records
- Collar with ID tags - make sure your microchip information is up to date.
- Medications and prescriptions with instructions.
- Daily care instructions
- Veterinarian's contact information



Get the facts

Links to current recommendations about pets and COVID-19:

- **Centers for Disease Control (CDC)**
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/animals.html>
- **U.S. Department of Agriculture**
https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/newsroom/news/sa_by_date/sa-2020/ny-zoo-covid-19?fbclid=IwAR0de-e4E5NCV0mP4vH_uIZjsQHV0cQsTemZyGAOXETStoX31LSkiqdrQc
- **American Veterinary Medical Association**
https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/animal-health-and-welfare/covid-19/sars-cov-2-animals-including-pets?fbclid=IwAR2NsIK1FMAEv4MNDqefl6hoyNyZXy3lu4atpRb8i aj_qlga5SLJBjraYVU



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Social distancing with your animals is as important as with people. That goes for distancing from humans and other animals.

If someone in your home becomes ill with the virus, separate your animals from the person who is ill.

If you have questions or think your pet might be ill, contact your veterinarian by mail or phone. It's important that you not show up without a conversation and a plan.