

How to Keep Pets Safe at Home During COVID-19



Include pets in your emergency plan

Find someone to take care of your pets if you get sick. Have your pet's toys, food, medicine, and more ready to go at a moment's notice. Have a back-up for your back-up.

Pets and COVID-19

According to the US CDC, the Public Health Agency of Canada, the WHO and the OIE, there is **no evidence** that companion animals, including pets, can spread COVID-19.

Responsibly stock up on pet supplies

Make sure to have at least a two-week supply of pet food, treats, and cat litter on hand, as well as a 30-day supply of your pet's medications.

Protect your pets if you get sick

If you aren't feeling well but can care for your pet, keep them at home with you.

If you are sick with COVID-19, restrict contact with pets, just like you would with people. Have another member of your household take care of your pet. If you have a service animal, or must care for your pet, wear a facemask, and wash your hands before and after any contact with them.

Enjoy your new coworkers

If you are not ill, you can interact with your pet as you normally would, including walking, feeding, cuddling, and playing. Soak it up.

Leave stray cats alone

Healthy stray cats and kittens should stay in the community and should not be taken into the shelter. Animal shelters are focused on providing critical care to animals in emergency situations. Healthy cats are also more likely to find their way back home if they are left alone; only 2.8% of cats are reunited with their families through shelter; 25% of lost cats return home on their own.

Reunite dogs if you can

If you find a stray dog, please attempt to reunite them with their families before bringing them to your local animal control agency. If they have tags, call the owner immediately. Other great tools include Facebook, Nextdoor, or Kijiji.