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San Diego Humane Society Encourages COVID-19 Pet Preparedness Plan

In preparation for an increase in COVID-19 cases, now is an important time to plan ahead in case you get sick

San Diego – With the expected peak in COVID-19 cases still ahead of us, San Diego Humane Society is encouraging pet owners to be ready in the event of an emergency. While there is currently no evidence you can contract COVID-19 from your pet, it's important to plan ahead to protect your furry friends in case your own health is compromised.



1. Prepare an emergency kit: Keep at least a 2-week supply of pet food and water for your pets, as well as any medications they may need and a travel crate.
2. Identify people who can care for your pets: Have at least **three** options lined up in case they become sick or hospitalized. Create a care tree for how your pets will be cared for if your backup options are no longer able to care for them.
3. Create a written emergency plan for each pet: Include your name and contact information, your pet's feeding schedule, any medical conditions and treatment instructions. Document whether your pet is up-to-date on vaccinations, and list the contact information for your veterinarian.

Unless you are hospitalized and live alone, keep your pets with you. It's the best place for them to be, and it will bring comfort in these turbulent times. Even if you have to self-quarantine, the best place for your pets is at home with you. Take precautions – your pet should be social distancing as well. You can take them on walks, but keep 6 feet of distance from other people and pets.

San Diego Humane Society recommends staying diligent in preparations, but not overreacting to COVID-19 concerns. By creating a preparedness plan for the unlikely event it becomes necessary to put into motion, as a pet owner, you can do your part to ensure our resources as an emergency service provider do not become overwhelmed and your pets are spared unnecessary stress.

Suggested Tweet: [@sdhumane](https://twitter.com/sdhumane) encourages all pet owners to have a #COVID19 emergency preparedness plan. Identify at least 3 people who can care for your pet. Unless you are hospitalized and live alone, keep your pets with you. You can go on walks, but keep 6 feet from other people and pets.

About San Diego Humane Society

San Diego Humane Society's scope of social responsibility goes beyond adopting animals. We offer programs that strengthen the human-animal bond, prevent cruelty and neglect, provide medical care, educate the community and serve as a safety net for all pet families. Serving San Diego County since 1880, San Diego Humane Society has campuses located in Escondido, Oceanside and San Diego. For more information; please visit sdhumane.org.