## **TORONTO**

## **Emergency Preparedness for Your Pet**

FAMILY CONTACT INFORMATION		
Name		
Address		
Phone Number	Al	t Phone Number
Email	AI	ternate Email
SSHA Shelter Name	St	elter Address
SSHA Contact Person		ontact Phone umber
Emergency Contact Name	Er	nergency Contact
Emergency Contact Phone	Er	nergency Contact nail
Veterinary Clinic		
Veterinarian Phone Number		
PET INFORMATION		
Name		Age
Species		Breed
Sex		Spayed/Neutered
Vaccination information		
Health Issues		
Medications		
Behavioural Concerns	i	
Feeding Instructions		
Allergies		
Location of Emergency Supplies		
Microchip Number		Collar Tag Information i.e. City of Toronto Lic
Comments		

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Due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic, the City of Toronto has declared an emergency, cancelled all non-essential services and closed many facilities. During this time, Toronto Animal Services (TAS) is offering advice and assistance to pet owners who need help.

TAS can be a resource and provide assistance for those who are experiencing hardship and struggling to care and provide necessities for their pets, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Get in touch with TAS by phone through 311 or by email <u>animalservices@toronto.ca</u> to find out how TAS may be able to help.

It's important for pet owners to know that there is no evidence that pets can transmit this virus to people. The best place for a pet to be during this pandemic is with their owner, even if their owner is sick. Toronto Animal Services is currently responding to emergencies only and we are also following the guidelines of social/physical distancing for the protection of staff and the public. Because of this, TAS is following strategies to keep animal intake to a minimum. The following recommendations can help pet owners keep their pets safely with them. Having a plan in place for your pet is critical in the event you become seriously ill or require hospitalization. If this were to happen, the best place for your pet is with a family member or friend. Filling out the attached information forms is an important tool to keep your pet safe and ensure your wishes for your pets are known in the event of an emergency.

Additional suggested steps checklist:

- Identify a family member or friend who can temporarily care for your pet if you become unable to keep your pet with you.
- Ensure your pet is familiarized with a crate or carrier if possible.
- Fill out the attached information forms for yourself and your pet so they are readily available in the event of an emergency and you are unable to care for your pet. Ensure a SSHA staff member is aware of them so they are easily located in the event of an emergency.
- Ensure that all pet medications are documented with dosages and administering directions from your veterinarian with your documentation in a sealed plastic bag and that a SSHA staff member is aware of them.
- Pets should have a collar with identification tag that links to owner information. If your pet is
  microchipped ensure your contact and emergency contact information is current with the registry.
- Dogs should have a reliable leash.
- □ If possible, attach a picture of your pet(s) to their forms so they are easily identified, especially if you own more than one pet.
- Note any special feeding instructions, known allergies or medication for your pets on your forms.
- Carriers/crates labelled with your name, SSHA address and phone number.
- Place pet vaccination records in sealed plastic bag with information forms so easy to locate.