## **TORONTO**

### **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR YOUR PET**

FAMILY CONTACT INFORMATION					
Name					
Address					
Phone Number			Alt Phone Number		
Email			Alternate Email		
Emergency Contact Name			1		
Emergency Contact Phone					
Emergency Contact Email					
Veterinary Clinic					
Veterinarian Phone Number					
PET INFORMATION					
Name			Age		
Species			Breed		
Sex			Spayed/Neutered		
Vaccination information					
Health Issues					
Medications					
Behavioural Con	cerns				
Feeding Instructions					
Allergies					
Location of Emergency Supplies					
Microchip Number			Collar Tag Inf i.e. City of To		
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 COVID-19. Get in touch with TAS by phone through 311 or by email <u>taspartnerships@toronto.ca</u> between the hours of 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. 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 at home. 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 do so in your home.
- □ Have crates, food and extra supplies on hand for relocation of your pet if necessary. Ensure your pet is familiarized with a crate or carrier.
- □ 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. Leave them on your kitchen table or another obvious spot so they are easily located.
- Ensure that all medications are documented with dosages and administering directions, including the prescription and contact information from your veterinarian. Place the medications with your documentation in a sealed bag on kitchen table or write a notation on your forms with their location so they are easily located.
- □ Vaccination records sealed in plastic bag keep with information forms so easy to locate.
- Pets should have a collar with identification tag that links to owner information such as a City of Toronto license or Rabies tag. If your pet is microchipped ensure your contact and emergency contact information is current with the registry.
- Attach a picture of your pet(s) to their forms so they are easily identified, especially if there is more than one pet in your home.
- Place a list of pets in the home on your front door for emergency responders. Include a description of each animal, location in home, or on the property.

### Supplies for your pet:

- Dry and/or canned food. Keep an extra two-weeks supply of your pet's current diet safely stored and easily accessed. Note any feeding instructions and location of the food on your forms.
- Carriers/crates labelled with your name, address and phone number.
- Comfort item like a toy or bed this should be a separate clean item stored with extra food.
- Dogs should have a reliable leash.

Additional information and resources can be found by following these links:

- <u>https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/news/faqs-pet-owners-during-covid-19-pandemic</u>
- <u>https://bit.ly/33ZRwQb</u>