

Emergency Preparedness

- ✓ Make sure that cats and dogs are microchipped and wearing collars with up-to-date ID tags.
- ✓ Make arrangements with a backup caregiver who can help in the event of an emergency. Give them a key to your house so they can evacuate your pets if necessary.
- ✓ When leaving pets home alone, keep them near entrances where rescuers can easily find them.
- ✓ Store emergency kits and leashes near an exit for quick retrieval during an emergency.
- ✓ Assign each family member to one pet in your home, in the case that you have to evacuate.
- ✓ Install Pet Alert stickers on exterior doors and windows to let rescuers know the type and number of pets inside your home.



Include your pets in your fire escape plan. Practice drills with them. Know their hiding spots.



An estimated 500,000 pets across North America are affected annually by home fires.

According to the National Fire Prevention Association, nearly 1,000 house fires are accidentally started by the homeowner's pet each year.

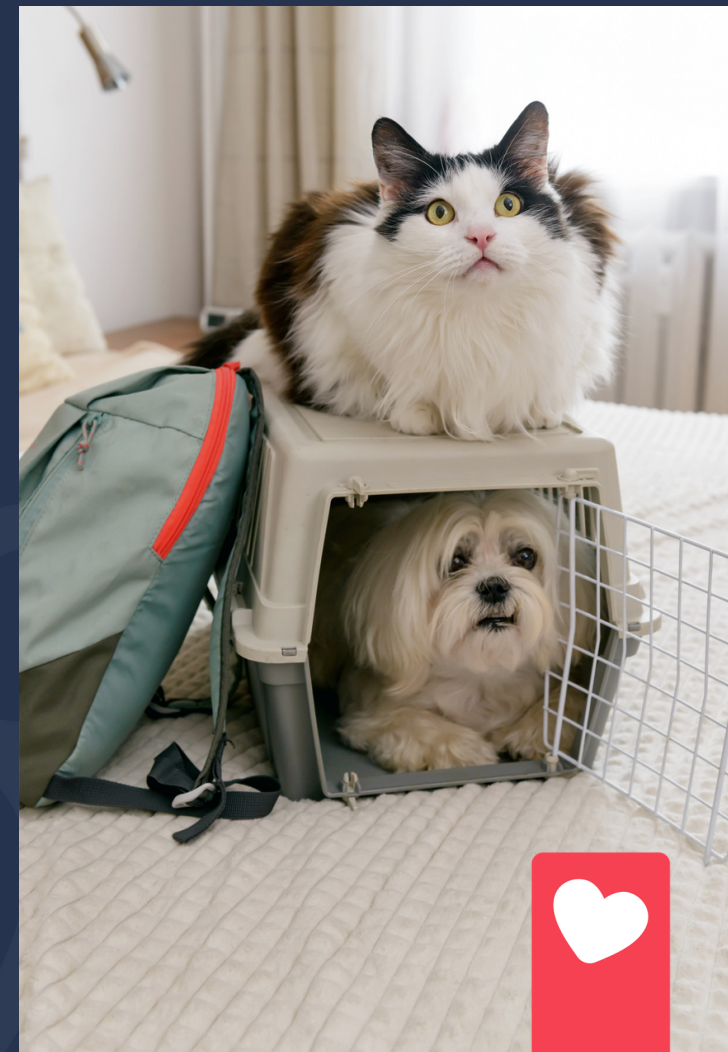
Do your part!

Be a responsible pet owner and make sure your pet is well taken care of in an emergency.

445 Cornwall Road, Oakville, Ontario L6J 7S8
hsomh.ca • 905-845-1551 • shelter@hsomh.ca



Protecting Your Pet in an Emergency



Fire Prevention

- ✓ Never leave open flames (such as candles, fireplaces, and stovetops) unattended. Instead, try using flameless candles and covers for your stove knobs.
- ✓ Ensure that all electrical cords are inaccessible to your pets by using cord protectors or taping them securely to the wall. Remember to unplug all gadgets when not in use.
- ✓ Place a barrier in front of fireplaces, campfires, barbecues, and portable heaters to keep pets at least three metres away.
- ✓ Install monitored smoke detectors that can contact emergency services even when you are not home. Complete monthly checks of the batteries in your detectors.
- ✓ Confine your pets from potential fire-starting hazards with crates or baby gates when you are away from home.



Bring your pet if you can safely take them with you.
Never put yourself at risk or delay your evacuation for a pet.

Pet Emergency Kit

Make an emergency kit for every pet in your home.
It should contain supplies such as:

- ☐ Medications and medical records
- ☐ Food, potable water, bowls, can opener
- ☐ Litter, litter tray, scoop, garbage bags
- ☐ Leashes, harnesses, and carriers
- ☐ Blanket, comfort toy
- ☐ List of emergency contact numbers and pet-friendly hotels/motels
- ☐ Current photos of you with your pets and written physical descriptions
- ☐ Contact info for your veterinarian and information about feeding schedules and medical and/or behavioural considerations
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____



Inspect your emergency kit every six months. Check expiry dates, restock any used items, inspect items for damage (such as dried-out wipes), and update medical records.

Pet First Aid Kit

A well-stocked first aid kit is an important part of every emergency kit. Ensure you know how to use all the first aid supplies *before* an emergency occurs.

Your first aid kit should include supplies such as:

- ☐ Guidebook to pet first aid
- ☐ Pet-safe antibiotic ointment/spray
- ☐ Gauze and bandages
- ☐ Vet wrap
- ☐ Medical tape
- ☐ Pet-safe wipes
- ☐ Saline solution
- ☐ Tweezers
- ☐ Blunt-tipped scissors
- ☐ Thermometer
- ☐ Nail clippers
- ☐ Instant ice pack
- ☐ Disposable gloves
- ☐ Towel

Tip: The Canadian Red Cross offers an online pet first aid course for \$30.

These first aid kits are not meant to replace professional care. If your pet is injured, always seek veterinary help as soon as possible.