

## Resources: Planning for Pets in the COVID Era

Our pets are family. Have you thought about who will take care of them if you can't? It is not too late to make a pet emergency preparedness plan, and we are here to help. Check out the following resources to help guide your planning today.

It is important to identify a family member, friend or neighbor who can care for your pet if you get ill or are unable to provide care. It is always a good idea to have a back-up (or two). Make sure your pet has proper identification, as well as an emergency kit prepared and easily accessible. Not sure what should be included in the emergency kit?

Check out these helpful resources to get started:

- [Pet disaster checklist from the CDC](#)
- [COVID-19 emergency kit from Red Rover](#)
- [COVID-19 preparedness plan from Best Friends](#)

Financial assistance for pet owners who need to board their pets may be available through:

- [Red Rover relief emergency boarding](#)

Remember to prepare a written authorization for a family member or friend to care for your pet in the event that you cannot. Here are example that can be downloaded and printed at home:

- [Guardianship authorization form](#)
- [Pet emergency care form](#)

As pet owners, it is our responsibility to make sure that our pets are cared for throughout their entire life. Consider setting up a pet trust, which is a legal arrangement for the care of companion animals in the event that the owner is disabled or has passed away. Pet trust laws are unique state by state, so stay informed! *Catnip*, a nationally-circulated newsletter affiliated with Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University, provided a great summary regarding estate planning for pets.

- [Pet trust primer](#)
- [Pet trust laws by state](#)
- [Estate planning for pets](#)

We receive an overwhelming amount of information regarding COVID-19 on a daily basis. Keeping our pets safe at home is a top priority. Dr. Elizabeth Berliner discusses simple guidelines for caretakers for pets of COVID-19 positive owners. Do you have more questions? Find up-to-date information regarding COVID-19 and animals on the CDC's website.

- [Keeping pets safe at home](#)
- [Guidance for caretakers for pets of COVID-19 positive patients](#)
- [CDC's guidance for people with pets](#)

