

Protect your Pet from Wildfire Smoke

Your pets can be affected by wildfire smoke. If you feel the effects of smoke, they probably do, too! Smoke can irritate your pet's eyes and respiratory tract. Animals with heart or lung disease and older pets are especially at risk from smoke and should be closely watched during all periods of poor air quality.

Limit Exposure

- Keep pets indoors as much as possible and provide plenty of fresh water.
- Keep indoor air clean: close windows and doors, set air conditioning to recirculate, use a HEPA air filter.
- Bring outdoor pets into a room with good ventilation, like a utility room or garage. Ensure dangerous products, such as pesticides, are out of reach of pets.
- Avoid activities that worsen air quality: smoking, wood burning, and vacuuming. These activities add particles to your home.
- Smoke is especially tough on your pet birds. Keep them inside when smoke is present.
- Limit activities when outdoors. Let dogs and cats outside only for brief bathroom breaks if air quality is poor.

Know the Signs

If your animals have any of these signs, call your veterinarian:

- Coughing or gagging
- Red or watery eyes, nasal discharge, inflammation of throat or mouth or reluctance to eat hard foods
- Trouble breathing, including open-mouth breathing, more noise when breathing, or fast breathing
- Fatigue or weakness, disorientation, uneven gait, stumbling
- Reduced appetite or thirst



Be Ready to Evacuate

- Include your pets in your planning. Have each pet permanently identified, for example with a microchip.
- Know where they will be allowed to go if there is an evacuation – not all emergency shelters accept pets.
- Know where your pets might hide when stressed, so you won't have to spend time looking for them in an emergency.
- Get pets used to their carriers and have your family practice evacuating with your pets. Covering carriers with a sheet during transport may calm a nervous pet.
- If you must leave your pets behind, **never tie them up.**



Evacuation Kit

Prepare a Pet Evacuation Kit

Assemble the kit well before any emergency and store it in an easy-to-carry, waterproof container close to an exit.

- Food, water, and medicine for 7 to 10 days
- Sanitation and first aid supplies
- Important documents, such as: identification papers including proof of ownership; vaccination records; medical records and medication instructions; emergency contact list, including veterinarian and pharmacy; and a photo of your pet (preferably with you)
- Travel supplies, such as: crate or pet carrier labeled with your contact information; extra collar/harness with ID tags and leash; flashlight, extra batteries; and muzzle
- Comfort items, such as favorite toys and treats, and an extra blanket or familiar bedding