



O R E G O N

# COVID-19: Guidance for Animal Owners and Veterinarians

*March 13, 2020*

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) guidance for animal owners and veterinarians.

## **Guidance for Animal Interactions**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) does not have any evidence to suggest that animals or animal products imported from China pose a risk for spreading COVID-19 in the United States.

In the United States, to date, CDC has not received any reports of pets or other animals becoming sick with COVID-19. At this time, there is no evidence that companion animals including pets can spread COVID-19. However, since animals can spread other diseases to people, it's always a good idea to wash your hands after being around animals.

Out of an abundance of caution, the CDC recommends that those ill with COVID-19 limit contact with animals until more information is known about the virus. Have another member of your household take care of walking, feeding, and playing with your pet. If you have a service animal or you must care for your pet, then wear a facemask; don't share food, kiss, or hug them; and wash your hands before and after any contact with them.

## **Key Information:**

- People should identify a family member or friend who can care for pets if someone in the household becomes ill.
- Have crates, food, and extra supplies on hand for quick movement of pets.
- Keep all animal vaccines up to date in the event boarding becomes necessary.
- Ensure all pet medications are documented with dosages and administering directions.
- Pets should have identification: ID and license tags and microchips.

## **Information for Veterinarians**

State public health veterinarians who have been contacted about pets, or other animals, potentially exposed to COVID-19 can consult with the CDC One Health Team 24/7 by calling CDC's Emergency Operations Center at (770) 488-7100.

## **For more information**

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

[Animal Sheltering](#)