



SUMMER2020



**SUMMER SAFETY**

**COVID-19 & PETS**



**National Pet  
Preparedness  
Month**

  
*Madison County*  
*Animal Care & Control*



# Can You Get Coronavirus From Your Pet?

*What we know and what we're still learning about the risk of transmission between humans, cats, and dogs, plus expert guidance on how to keep your four-legged friends healthy.*



## Can I get COVID-19 from my pets or other animals?

At this time, there is no evidence that animals play a significant role in spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people is considered to be low. A small number of pets have been reported to be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, mostly after contact with people with COVID-19.

Pets have other types of coronaviruses that can make them sick, like canine and feline coronaviruses. These other coronaviruses cannot infect people and are not related to the current COVID-19 outbreak.

## Can animals carry the virus that causes COVID-19?

Although we know certain bacteria and fungi can be carried on fur and hair, there is no evidence that viruses, including the virus that causes COVID-19, can spread to people from the skin, fur or hair of pets.

However, because animals can sometimes carry other germs that can make people sick, it's always a good idea to practice healthy habits around pets and other animals, including washing hands before and after interacting with them.



## What animals can get COVID-19?

It is not known for sure what animals can be infected with the virus. CDC is aware of a small number of pets, including dogs and cats, reported to be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, mostly after close contact with people with COVID-19. A tiger at a zoo in New York has also tested positive for the virus.

In early March 2020, the World Health Organization declared that the COVID-19 novel coronavirus a global pandemic. In the panic over the spread of the virus, people are worried not only about their own health but the health of their dogs, cats, and other pets. According to the Centers for Disease Control, "there is no evidence that pets play a role in spreading the virus in the United States. Therefore, there is no justification in taking measures against companion animals that may compromise their welfare."

## Should I avoid contact with pets or other animals if I tested positive with COVID-19?

We are still learning about this virus, but it appears that it can spread from people to animals in some situations. Until we learn more about this new coronavirus, you should restrict contact with pets and other animals while you are sick with COVID-19, just like you would with people. When possible, have another member of your household care for your animals while you are sick. If you are sick with COVID-19, avoid contact with your pet, including

- Petting
- Snuggling
- Being kissed or licked
- Sharing food or bedding

If you must care for your pet or be around animals while you are sick, wash your hands before and after you interact with pets and wear a cloth face covering.

**For more CDC FAQs visit their website at**  
**[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html#COVID-19-and-Animals](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html#COVID-19-and-Animals)**

# When Disaster Strikes: Plan for Pets

Are you prepared for a disaster or emergency? Does your plan include your pets?

June is National Pet Preparedness Month, which urges people to make plans for pets during an emergency such as a tornado, flood or other natural disaster.

Here are a few simple steps to save your pets:

- Most emergency shelters cannot accept pets due to health and safety concerns. Make a plan on where they can go during this time.
- Keep copies of your pets medical records. Pet friendly shelters require up-to-date records.
- Federal law requires states to include planning for domestic animals in their emergency evacuation plans.
- Make sure to get your pet microchipped. If your pet becomes lost or separated then there is more success in finding them.
- Pack your pets disaster and first aid kits. Make sure to pack a leash or harness, cat carrier and extra collar label with your pet's name, first aid kit, plastic bowl, cat litter, and at least five days of spare medication and water to last at least three days.

Visit [Madison County Emergency Management](#) to learn more.

JUNE IS NATIONAL PET  
PREPAREDNESS MONTH



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HIGHLAND ANIMAL  
SHELTER



click on a logo to visit a  
rescue's website



While COVID-19 changed life for Americans in a myriad of ways, it also created new opportunities for some of man's best friends.

During the pandemic, many shelters and rescues saw an unprecedented number of people who stepped up in big ways.

National data shows that during the height of the COVID-19 crisis shelters saw a 47 percent increase in dogs in foster care and 7 percent increase in cats.

Fostering is even more critical to sustaining lifesaving operations post pandemic.

Like everyone else forced to improvise in the face of an unprecedented crisis, America's animal shelters came up with creative ways to stay "open," so they could continue pairing people and pets.

Contrary to fears, there are no signs so far of rising number of dogs and cats surrendered by people too sick to take care of them, or people who have lost their jobs and can't afford to take care of them.

Visit a local rescue or shelter to find out more about what you can do to help.



# STARS, STRIPES & SAFETY

**50%** of Dogs & Cats  
Suffer From Fireworks Stress

A dog's hearing is  
**10x**  
more sensitive than a humans

## FEEDING TIME

Feed your pets to help them settle

## IN BEFORE DARK

Make sure your pets are in before the festivities start

## REDUCE NOISE

Drown out the loud bangs with a TV or radio

## ENVIRONMENT

Set your pet up in a room with their favorite things

## WALK

Take your dog for an extra-long walk prior to event

## ORGANIZATION

Prepare for the night in advance

## REASSURANCE

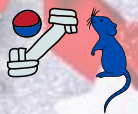
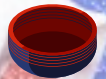
Stay with your pet to keep them settled

## KITTENS & PUPPIES

Young ones can be extra sensitive to loud noises

## SECURITY

Make sure room is secure and pets can't get out



**FOURTH OF JULY** fireworks are anything but fun for pets. The loud noises can cause serious anxiety and stress in both cats and dogs. Take extra precautions this Independence Day, and all summer long, by following this expert advice to ease your pets' fears.



# SUMMER *safety tips*

Protect your pup



1

Never leave your dog in a car. All pet owners should "Look Before You Lock" to prevent accidentally leaving your pet behind. Add a little bit of body text

4

Apply sunscreen to your pet's ears and nose at least 30 minutes before going outside. Dogs with short hair, white fur, or pink skin are much more susceptible to sunburn.

## Vehicle temperature

Outside °F	Inside °F	
	10 min	30 min
70°	89°	104°
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°

### Did You Know?

Cracking windows or leaving your car in shade has **very little** effect on the car's internal temperature.

Overheating and heat stroke can cause irreversible **organ damage and even death.**



2

Avoid walks during the hottest part of the day. Take your dog out early in the morning or in the evening.

5

Dogs pant to eliminate heat, but excessive panting is a sign of being overheated. Bright red gums and tongue also indicate heat exhaustion.

3

Make sure to provide plenty of water and shade for animals who spend most of their time outside.

6

Fatigue or resistance to walk are also signs of overheating







are in need of finding a temporary home and Madison County Animal Care and Control is looking for a few good volunteers.

Katherine Conder, animal control manager, said volunteer foster families are needed as we approach the upcoming "kitten" season. She said foster families help reduce the number of cats/kittens at the facility.

"Fostering helps Animal Control take care of felines awaiting a more permanent spot," Conder said. "It also helps eliminate health problems, like upper respiratory illnesses common in cats at shelters."

Foster parents are required to fill out a foster application and will be approved by the animal control director before a cat/kittens are allowed to go into a foster home.

"Fostering is a vital component to helping us reduce the number of animals euthanized at animal control," Conder said. "It also helps teach the animals social skills."



Fostering exposes cats/kittens to other animals, including dogs and children. The fostered animals are then set up for success before going into their new home.

Though animal shelters look for foster homes for many of its younger animals, foster situations also can be good for animals that tend to get stressed or anxious in a shelter environment, and for cats that might need a little more one-on-one training or socialization.

"For those who do volunteer it can be challenging, but also rewarding," Conder said.

For more information, visit Animal Control's website and fill out a foster application at [www.co.madison.il.us/departments/animal\\_control/foster\\_program.php](http://www.co.madison.il.us/departments/animal_control/foster_program.php).



# Summer KITTTIES

Here we are, in the midst of a pandemic and the phenomenon referred to as "kitten season." Have you heard of it?

It's that time of year when every unspayed, female cat is likely to have a belly full of babies, or a litter of youngsters by her side.

It's during kitten season when humane societies and animal shelters are filled with the felines.

The season tends to start with a few litters showing up in shelters in early spring. By summer, they're pouring in.

Unspayed kitties typically experience their first heat cycle (estrus) sometime between five and nine months of age. A queen who is in heat is exceptionally likely to become pregnant for the following reasons:

A female cat will repeatedly come into heat, approximately every two weeks, throughout the entire breeding season.

A queen who is in heat is quite the precocious creature. She will do whatever it takes to find herself a tomcat, and she will breed with multiple males.

The domestic cat is an induced ovulator— her eggs lie in waiting until 30 to 50 hours following copulation, at which time they are released from her ovaries. This timing ensures that the eggs and sperm cells encounter one another.



During the breeding season, queens quickly come back into heat after giving birth, even before their kittens are weaned.

During the breeding season, queens quickly come back into heat after giving birth, even before their kittens are weaned.

Become a hero this kitten season, no matter what your age, ability or resources are. In fact, it can take as little as five minutes to help save lives. You can foster a litter of kittens with your neighbors, donate old towels and blankets to your local shelter, or share a post on social media from a group that's looking for volunteers or adopters.



 +  x 7 years equals 420,000 cats





# PET PEST PROTECTION



Summer is upon us and the warmer temperatures puts our pets at risk from pests and parasites. The most common disease carrying creatures are fleas, ticks, ear mites and mosquitos. Some of these parasites causes illnesses such as lyme disease and tapeworms.

Furthermore, the animal scratching in reaction to the parasite bite can often result in secondary infections. While not technically a parasites, mosquitoes carry one of the most devastating internal parasites--the heartworm.

Heartworms can infect both dogs and cats, but the symptoms and resulting treatment options differ significantly. However, in both cats and dogs, an undetected and untreated heartworm infection can ultimately lead to a painful death of the pet.

Treatments for all the diseases and parasites listed above are available at your local veterinarian. Rather than spend money on treatments after the infections, a far better and more affordable option is to pursue preventative measures first.

For external parasites like fleas and ticks, preventative treatments can take the form of topical applications to the skin or ingested chews. These preventatives may repel the parasites or kill any parasites that manage to bite your pet.

When it comes to preventing mosquito bites, the options are far more limited. Most common mosquito repellents found in the home for humanprotection are not safe for pets. While one might thinkmosquitoes can't get through a pet's fur — think again.

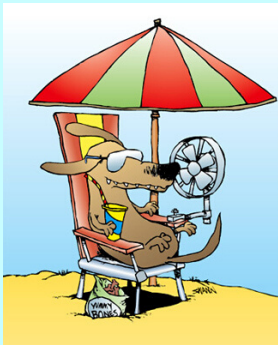
Your pet has plenty of exposed skin that can present an inviting location for a mosquito bite and preventative treatment against the heartworm parasite is important.

There are numerous heartworm prevention medicines available in chew form. Following your veterinarian's instruction, you simply give your pet the chew once a month to prevent a heartworm infection. It is critical that any heartworm preventative be administered precisely as scheduled as any missed doses can leave your pet susceptible to an infection.

Your veterinarian will administer a heartworm test at least once a year to confirm that no infection slipped past the treatments. One factor to consider is that treatments for dogs should never be given to cats and you should make your veterinarian aware if you have both dogs and cats living in your home so that the proper treatment can be prescribed.

With consistent preventative methods as prescribed by a veterinarian, chances are that your pet can live a lifetime without the irritating, costly and potentially deadly infections from fleas, ticks and mosquitoes. 🐾

## Does Your Dog Need Sunscreen?



### 1. Your dog is an outdoor enthusiast

If this is your dog, she likes spending the entire day at the beach, in the pool or hiking the trails.

### 2. Your dog has short hair

Does your dog have naturally short hair? Are you a fan of the "summer shave?" If either answer is yes, than you might want to pay attention to how much time your pup stays in the sun. Short-haired dogs have a higher occurrence of sunburn compared to their furry counterparts.

### 3. Your dog has a bald spot

Surgery incisions, balding and bare bellies are three reasons your dog will need sunscreen if they're staying in the sun for more than 15 minutes.

### 4. Your dog has a light-colored nose

Dogs with light noses are basically asking for it. Light noses need extra protection against sun worshipping.

## Home-made Sunscreen for dogs

### Ingredients:

1 oz Unrefined Coconut Oil  
½ oz Shea Butter  
1 oz Olive Oil  
¼ oz Red Raspberry Seed Oil  
¼ oz Carrot Seed Oil (not the essential oil)  
2 drops Lavender or Roman Chamomile essential oil

### Directions:

1. Combine oils in a slow cooker. Cook on low heat for 20 minutes.  
2. Add essential oils and stir for 2 minutes. Cover and let cool.  
3. Pour into a squeezable container.  
4. Before use, test for sensitivity on a small area on yourself and your dog before applying the oil to a larger area.



# PRECIOUS PETS

RESCUED  
FROM  
MADISON  
COUNTY  
ANIMAL  
CARE &  
CONTROL







# RESCUING MORE THAN DOGS AND CATS

**W**hen a pot-bellied pig named Sherman arrived at Madison County Animal Control in early June, he was shy and scared.

"The owner couldn't take care of him and turned him in," Animal Control Manager Katherine Conder said.

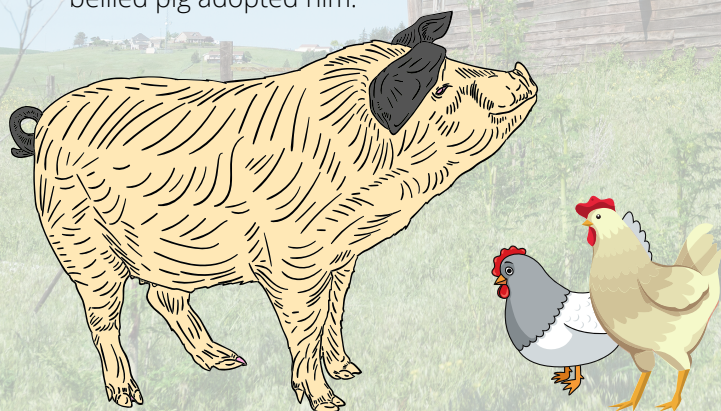
Conder said animal control officers picked Sherman up in Cottage Hills on June 12 and brought him into the facility in Edwardsville.

"He was with us until June 22 and then he was off to go live on a farm with his new owner," she said.

Conder said a woman who recently lost her pot-bellied pig adopted him.

She said although Animal Control doesn't typically take pets other than cats and dogs, they were able to accommodate Sherman and is glad he's going to a loving home.

"Other than Sherman the only other animals we've taken in the past few years were some chickens," Conder said.



## Madison County Daily COVID-19 Operations

Due to COVID-19, Madison County Animal Care and Control has changed its daily operations to the public.

- If an owner wants to turn in their animal we would ask them to contact Madison County Animal Care and Control prior to turn in their animal.
- Animals brought in by the public must make appointments when bringing in stray animals.
- Individuals wanting to make appointments for Euthanasia MUST schedule an appointment by 3p.m., Monday through Friday.
- Owner turn ins will continue to be limited and will depend on space in the facility and what strays are coming in. If an owner does turn in an animal they will be required to make a scheduled appointment with an animal control officer.

## Animal Control Municipal Facilities

Alton.....	463-3553
Bethalto.....	377-5266
East Alton.....	259-8069
Edwardsville.....	656-2131
Glen Carbon.....	288-7226
Granite City.....	452-6233
Godfrey.....	466-7468
Highland.....	654-2131
Madison .....	876-6268
Pontoon Beach.....	931-5100
Roxana .....	254-1945
South Roxana.....	254-7469
Venice.....	452-6233
Wood River.....	251-3113
Madison County.....	692-1700



# Foodie



## Homemade Ice Cream for FIDO

DIY ice cream for your canine

### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 32oz tub of organic plain Greek Yogurt
- 2 heaping tablespoons of organic no sugar added peanut butter
- 1 heaping tablespoon of pure organic pumpkin (NOT pumpkin pie filling)
- silicone cupcake molds...or another vessel to put the ice cream in individual servings

### DIRECTIONS:

Mix all ingredients and place in molds in the freezer

This measurement makes approximately 12 servings depending on how much or little you fill the molds.



## CATSICLES

### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 15.8-ounce plastic cups
- 1 5.5-ounce can of your cat's favorite wet food (smooth, not chunky, works best)
- Catnip and/or soft cat treats (optional)

### DIRECTIONS:

1. Mix cat food and optional ingredients in a medium-size bowl. Mix should be primarily cat food, with treats mixed in as you would add chocolate chips.
2. Fill plastic cups with 1/4 to 1/2 an inch of mixture. Flatten mixture by stacking cups one inside the other. Place plastic wrap over top to avoid freezer burn and place in freezer overnight.
3. To serve dip the bottom of the cup in warm water until loosens and pop out catsicle.





*Love* comes in all colors

