

PET FIRE SAFETY

KEEP YOUR HOME & PETS SAFE

It's important to remember to include your furry family members into your emergency plan. Each year, 40,000 pets lose their lives in house fires, more than 500,000 pets are impacted by house fires and 1,000 house fires are started by pets themselves! It's no fun to think about, but it's necessary to take a few minutes and make sure you are doing all you can to ensure your pets get out safely.

PREVENTING A FIRE

- Never leave candles or fires in your fireplace unsupervised, and consider flameless candles and a secure fireplace enclosure to prevent trouble
- Put covers over, or remove stove knobs and discourage climbing in the kitchen to prevent your pet from bumping up against a dial and accidentally filling your house with gas
- Some pets love to chew. Secure loose wires from lamps and electronics and ensure they are out of reach from your pet
- When outside, never put a glass bowl on a wooden porch or deck as the sun's rays can heat the bowl, causing a fire. -- use a ceramic water bowl or stainless steel dishes instead

PREPARING FOR A FIRE

- Talk with your family or housemates to determine an emergency plan that includes your pet. Assign roles so that each person knows what they are responsible for should a fire occur
- Have a pre-packed emergency supply kit for your pet including food, medication, water, a photo of your pet, leash, carrier and medical records
- Make sure you know where your pet likes to hide and how to get him or her out of that hiding spot quickly should you need to evacuate them
- Put a decal or sticker in your home's front window indicating the number and type of pets you have to cut down on the time firefighters spend searching for them
- Make sure that the contact information on your pet's collar/microchip is up to date
- Install smoke detectors connected to emergency response services so that even if your pet is home alone, help can still be signaled and dispatched

DURING A FIRE

- Make sure your pet's leash or carrier is readily accessible and near an exit.
- If you are unable to locate or secure your pet, get outside, leaving the door open, and call for them from a safe distance..
- Once responders get there, immediately inform them your pet is still inside so they can continue looking for your pet.

