

## COVID-19 Checklist for Pet Owners and Veterinarians

### Top 5 Things You Can Do to Protect Against COVID-19

Ohio Department of Health Director Amy Acton, M.D., MPH strongly recommends taking the following actions:

For pet owners:

- Practice everyday preventive actions to stay healthy around your pets. At this point there is no evidence that companion animals, including pets, can spread COVID-19.
- Identify backup caretakers for pets in the event you are confirmed to have COVID-19.
- Wear a well-fitted mask and limit interaction with pets and other animals if you are confirmed to have COVID-19 and identified by public health officials as requiring home care and isolation. Service animals should be permitted to stay with their handlers.
- Implement practical measures to protect yourself, your family, or pets from this or any other contagious respiratory illness.
- While there is no vaccination against COVID-19, always vaccinate pets as recommended by your veterinarian to protect them from other diseases.

For veterinarians:

- Communicate about COVID-19 with your staff. Share information about what is currently known about COVID-19, the potential for surge, and your facility's preparedness plans.
- Counsel clients on disease prevention practices, including how to stay safe and healthy around pets and other animals.

- Post visual alerts (signs, posters) at entrances and in strategic places providing instruction on hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene, and cough etiquette. Ensure prevention supplies are available (tissues, waste receptacles, alcohol-based hand sanitizer).
- Double the frequency of and enhance environmental cleanings using EPA-approved disinfectants.
- Monitor the availability of personal protective equipment (PPE) and implement [Strategies for Optimizing the Supply of N95 Respirators](#).

For additional information, visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov).

For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call 1-833-4ASKODH (1-833-427-5634).

*Additional resources:*

CDC's COVID-19 and Animals FAQs: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html/#animals>.

CDC's [Healthy Pets, Healthy People website](#).

Interim Guidance for Public Health Professionals Managing People with COVID-19 in Home Care and Isolation Who Have Pets or Other Animals: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/interim-guidance-managing-people-in-home-care-and-isolation-who-have-pets.html>.

2020 Oregon Veterinary Medical Association COVID-19 Coronavirus & Pets: <https://www.oregonvma.org/care-health/zoonotic-diseases/coronavirus-faq>.

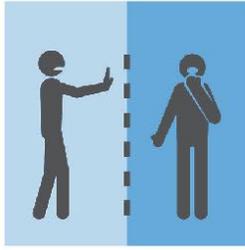
WHO recommended handwashing technique: [video](#).

CDC's COVID-19 Resources for Healthcare Providers: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/healthcare-facilities/steps-to-prepare.html>.

CDC's COVID-19 Interim Guidance for Healthcare Facilities: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/healthcare-facilities/guidance-hcf.html>.



STAY HOME  
WHEN YOU ARE  
SICK



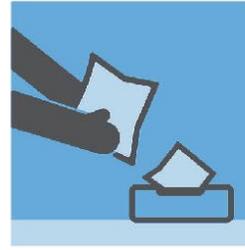
AVOID CONTACT  
WITH PEOPLE  
WHO ARE SICK



GET ADEQUATE SLEEP  
AND EAT WELL-  
BALANCED  
MEALS



WASH HANDS OFTEN  
WITH WATER AND SOAP  
(20 SECONDS  
OR LONGER)



DRY HANDS WITH  
A CLEAN TOWEL  
OR AIR DRY  
YOUR HANDS



COVER YOUR MOUTH  
WITH A TISSUE OR  
SLEEVE WHEN  
COUGHING OR SNEEZING



AVOID TOUCHING  
YOUR EYES, NOSE,  
OR MOUTH WITH  
UNWASHED HANDS  
OR AFTER  
TOUCHING SURFACES



CLEAN AND DISINFECT  
"HIGH-TOUCH"  
SURFACES OFTEN



CALL BEFORE VISITING  
YOUR DOCTOR



PRACTICE GOOD  
HYGIENE HABITS