



Pet Fire Safety

Tips for Protecting Your Pets

Did you know that about 1,000 house fires per year are started by pets? Here's how to make your house "fire safe" and include your pet(s) in evacuation plans.

Preventing Pet-Related Fires

- Keep all open flames out of reach and never leave a candle burning unsupervised.
- Place flammable liquids and cleaners in protected cabinets.
- In cold months, monitor access to lit fireplaces. While most pets won't approach a hot fire, they can place flammable materials close to a fire.
- Keep electrical cords out of reach of your pets.



Pet Evacuation Plans in the Event of a Fire

- Place decals on windows all around the house identifying how many and what kind of pets are located inside.
- Make sure your pets are wearing ID tags and that their microchip information is up-to-date.
- Include your pet in your evacuation plan, and practice the plan at least twice a year. (continued on back)

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Pet Evacuation Plans *(continued)*

- Teach all family members the safest way to get out of the home in case of fire.
- Be sure to have an outside meeting place that is a safe distance from your home.
- Keep an evacuation kit handy so you can grab it immediately.
- Have a leash close to the crate or dog bed and easily accessible cat carriers to help your distraught pets leave safely.

Fire Aftermath

- After the fire, assess your pet's condition.
- If your pet is having breathing difficulties, ask emergency workers to provide oxygen support.
- If your pet smells like smoke, he likely inhaled some as well. Take him to your veterinarian for examination and observation.

Ivan's Story

Ivan was saved from a fire. The house was destroyed, so his owner had to move and couldn't take him. She put him with a friend to foster him, but Ivan was traumatized from the fire. His health and behavior were suffering- he got a bad case of ear mites, was urinating out of the litter box, and more. Ivan came to AWA and with time and patience, he blossomed into a loving and friendly cat and was adopted into his forever home.

Thank you to the Camden County Board of Freeholders for sponsoring AWA's pet fire safety series.

Fire Safety tips provided by Voyce.
For more Pet Care Resources, visit www.awanj.org

Fire Prevention Week is in October