



# PET PATHS®

PETential Paths L.L.C.

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## Welcome to our premier issue of PET PATHS!

Hope you enjoy reading it! Please let us know by email if you have any suggestions for subject matter. We'd love to hear any comments you may



## Practical Advice for Pet Emergencies

With all the disastrous events happening around the country, it is a wake-up-call to pet owners that they must be ready for emergencies that might affect their furry friends.

Muttshack Animal Rescue, a project of National Heritage Foundation located in Sylmar, CA, has some good information from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) for diminishing, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from pet emergencies. These might consist of household fires, violent thunderstorms, floods, tornadoes, forest fires, hurricanes or earthquakes.

Situations like this can occur quickly and unannounced so you need to be ready, or bet-

ter yet, make advance preparation to reduce risks. To prevent their loss, make sure your pets wear identification at all times, and have photographs to identify them if necessary. Proper identification includes: tags with your name, address and phone number; Tattoos, microchips or other permanent I.D. will increase chances of locating your pet. Know where your animals usually hide and list the places for emergency veterinary care.

Develop an emergency procedure that includes an evacuation plan for pets; a place for family to meet if separated; who will take care of the pets in a crisis; the best room in the house to leave pets if you must evacuate

without it, or make arrangements to house the pets temporarily in another place. Accustom your pets to a sudden event by obedience training for a dog, and drills with dogs and cats getting them used to riding in the car for short periods, at first.



Assemble an emergency kit for pets. This will include a muzzle for dogs, a muzzle or towel for cats; a towel can also be used to restrain birds. Any caging for the pet should be large enough for them to stand. Have extra pet food (including a manual

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## Danger in Hot Cars



Have you ever noticed how hot it can get inside a car on a summer day — far hotter than it is outside? That's because a car acts like a greenhouse, trapping the sun's heat.

Leaving children and pets inside a closed car, or even one with the windows rolled down, is dangerous and deadly. Small children and animals are not able to open a window or a door like you can. Typically, they will be quiet as heat overcomes them, so there won't be crying or other audible indications of trouble. Report children or pets in hot cars to the police immediately by calling 911.

**Please ... keep them safe.**

## Best Western One of Most Pet-Friendly Hotels

It's still vacation time, and what hotels can you take your pet where he/she is welcome? People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals has named Phoenix-based Best Western as one of the top five most pet-friendly hotels in the country. The hotel chain's Web site offers a search fea-

ture for finding which of Best Western's 1,900 locations welcomes animals. Also featured are tips for traveling with pets and allows travelers to submit photos of themselves and their pets on vacation. There may be a fee for pets at certain locations.

Other hotels in the top five were Loews Hotels, Starwood's W Hotels, Choice Hotels and Day's Inn, Travelodge and Howard Johnson.



[www.bestwestern.com](http://www.bestwestern.com)

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### EVENTS (Call or email PETential Paths for details)

August 26, 2007: 1-day "Paws On" Workshop for you and your dog. Sign up now!

October 27, 2007: Foothills Animal Rescue 4th Annual Rita Cohen Dog Walk

February 2008: 2-day Dog TTouch Workshop ... date to be announced.

February 17, 2008: Heart to Heart Dog Walk for animal heart disease.

## How Can TTouch Help Your Pet?

TTouch can help your animal with many issues concerning:

- Agility and Gait
- Excessive Barking & Chewing
- Leash Pulling
- Jumping Up
- Aggressive Behavior
- Extreme Fear & Shyness
- Hyper Excitability
- Tension & Stress
- Problems Associated with Aging
- Recovery from Injury or Surgery\*
- Resistance to Grooming
- Separation Anxiety
- Litter Box Issues

- Scratching & Fear Biting
- Trauma with Traveling

\*TTouch supports veterinary care.



For help in the Phoenix, AZ, metropolitan area, contact Barb Dunning, PETential Paths, 602-793-7277 or [barb.PETentialPaths@cox.net](mailto:barb.PETentialPaths@cox.net)

### Communication Through Gentle Touches

## Practical Advice for Pet Emergencies (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

can opener), familiar toys and blankets, plenty of drinking water, clean up supplies with disinfectant, and copies of the pets' medical records along with extra medication. Obviously, all vaccinations should be current.

In the case of birds, keep them away from fumes from fires or chemicals, both of which can be toxic to our feathered friends.

In response to an emergency, cage the animal immediately to prevent hiding, and to cut down on their trauma. Check emergency alert systems for special arrangements made for pets. Never leave them tied in the

yard, or loose to fend for themselves.

In the recovery period, keep your pets caged until they are calm, letting them loose only in a closed room. Follow emergency management instructions as to whether the environment is safe for pets. Let them have plenty of uninterrupted sleep, but encourage them to play when awake to reduce stress and trauma. Avoid excessive exercise, bathing, diet supplements as well as diet change.

Be prepared, and you will have peace of mind knowing you've done all you could to protect your pets.

For more detailed information,

check the training information on PDF (185 pages) file, "IS-10: Animals in Disaster-Module A: Awareness and Preparedness" at FEMA: <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/downloads/is10comp.pdf>.



For information on Muttsack Animal Rescue: <http://www.muttsack.org/>.

## Tips & Tails

**Small dogs:** Try to avoid picking up your dog and carrying it everywhere. If it doesn't have a chance to walk much, it will be out of balance. Not being in balance contributes to lack of confidence, which can lead to nervousness and yapping.

**Cats:** One way to get a cat calm is to stroke the area on the nose from a spot just below the eyes up to the forehead with a light touch of your finger. This seems to be a "feel good" spot for them!

**All animals:** TTouch helps the animal explore its potential, giving it more confidence and better manners without the use of force.