

The Chicagoland Lifesaving Coalition
April 24, 2020

Joint Statement Regarding Pets and COVID-19 Risk of Transmission

Recently, the [Centers for Disease Control](#) (CDC) announced the first confirmed cases of two pet cats that tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19). While this is alarming, the routine testing of pets is not recommended at this time and there is no evidence that dogs and cats can transmit the virus to humans. The two cats displayed mild symptoms and are expected to make a full recovery.

Continuing to follow the CDC's guidelines, we do strongly recommend the following:

- Do not let pets interact with people or other animals outside the household.
- Keep cats indoors when possible to prevent them from interacting with other animals or people.
- Walk dogs on a leash, maintaining at least 6 feet from other people and animals.
- Avoid dog parks or public places where a large number of people and dogs gather.

Additionally, we urge all pet owners to [have a plan](#) to continue to care for your pets should you or another member of your household become infected with the virus.

As trusted partners in animal care, we will continue to keep you updated through our websites and social media.

Animal Care League
Evanston Animal Shelter
Hinsdale Humane Society
One Tail at a Time
Safe Humane
South Suburban Humane Society
The Anti-Cruelty Society
Tree House Humane Society