



I wanted to reach out to you personally and make you aware of the preventative measures we are taking at the Humane Society of Sedona to ensure our visitors, adopters, staff, volunteers and the animals in our care remain safe and healthy in the light of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. However, I also wanted to share with you some simple things you can do to keep you and your companion animals safe.

As always, we continue to thoroughly clean and disinfect the animal kennels and adjacent public areas daily using shelter-grade disinfectant. We have added additional hand sanitizer stations, and are happy to provide gloves for anyone who requests them. Our staff who are able to work remotely are doing so, and any high touch public areas are being cleaned daily. We are following the guidance of not only the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) and the [Center for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#), but also the [World Small Animal Veterinary Association \(WSAVA\)](#) and the [World Organisation for Animal Health](#).

Given there is no vaccine for the virus, the best preventative measures continue to be washing your hands frequently, using correct sneezing and coughing etiquette (covering your nose and mouth with a tissue or using the crook of your arm), cleaning surfaces, remaining several feet away from others especially in crowded areas, and avoid hand-shaking and hugging.

It has not yet been confirmed that humans can transmit the virus to animals or vice versa. However, if you do become infected, you are encouraged to not have contact with other humans or pets. This may be challenging to those with "fur children", so wash your hands repeatedly and do not let your pets lick your face. If you can arrange to have a neighbor or friend look after them until you recover, that is recommended.

Ensure you have a month's supply of food and medication for your pet on hand as well as any kind of equipment needed to transport them like a carrier. Proper identification should be worn by your pet and paperwork should be handy as well. The CDC has a comprehensive list of what to have on hand in their [Pet Disaster Preparedness Kit](#). Just as with humans, stay away from crowded areas such as dog parks, or other events where lots of humans and animals will be together.

If you are interested in adopting a cat or dog from us, please know that we would love to have you visit the Shelter to meet your new best friend in person, and while you are here, please help us keep everyone healthy and use hand sanitizer, wash your hands frequently, etc.

My hope is that you and your family will remain healthy during this time, and if you have further questions regarding the Coronavirus and how you can prevent it's spread, please refer to the links above.

We thank you for your ongoing support of the animals in our care, and we could not ensure their futures in loving families without you!

With heartfelt gratitude,

Jennifer Brehler
Executive Director