



## Wags and Purrs Comfort Corner

### Professional Pet Care Specialists and Emergencies



June is National Pet Preparedness Month, a month to make sure your pet is included in all emergency and disaster planning. Our blog [Pet First Aid and Emergency Techniques](#) covers how to handle possible health emergencies, while our blog [Build Your Own Pet First Aid Kit](#) shows pet parents what should be included in their first aid kit to help their pet in the case of an emergency. In the unfortunate case of fires or natural disasters, [Emergency Evacuation Plans for Pets](#) details how to include your beloved pets in escape routes and evacuation planning.

All of the above information is critical to pet parents for the health, wellness and safety of their pets during emergencies, but not all emergencies fall under the category of natural disasters. Car accidents, heart attacks and sudden illnesses also fall under emergencies and while doctors, EMTs and hospitals are there for the care of the pet parent,

### Health Tip for the Season

One of the most common items missed when packing for emergencies or disasters are basic cleaning supplies. Of course, we think of food dishes and water bowls but we also have to remember to bring something to clean them with so our pets can stay healthy with clean dishes. Bottled water is usually on hand during emergencies, but make sure you are including enough for both drinking and cleaning. Most stores sell sample bottles of dish liquid or some can be poured into travel sized bottles.

### Training Tip for the Season

Not all pets are comfortable riding in cars. In the case of emergency or natural disasters when seconds count, it's imperative a pet parent be able to get their pet into a carrier or car without having to fight them. If you need help teaching a pet to ride

who will be caring for the pet while they are in the hospital or while they recuperate? What if an emergency happens while a pet parent is out of state and can't get home?

A Professional Pet Care Specialist will already have a bond with the pet, know their routine, medications, food, personalities and how to get to the pet's house quickly and be able to enter. When a family member is in the hospital, everyone will want to be at their side and neighbors or those found on a dog walking app, won't have a way into the home, be trustworthy or have a rapport with the pet and know their routine.

The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) has really reminded us all how easily someone can fall ill and how potentially serious it can become very quickly. There isn't always time to find a neighbor, hire a new sitter and train them and get your pet to trust them. Having a trusted Professional Pet Care Specialist now can give any pet parent peace of mind should an illness, disaster or emergency happen.

safely in the car, our blog [Safely Traveling in a Vehicle with Pets](#) can provide important tips to get your pet used to riding safely and happily in cars.

### Pet Sitter Tip for the Season

In the case of an emergency, seconds count and it's critical all clients have updated information on file in the system. Periodically, make sure all phone numbers, garage and security codes are up to date in the system. In addition, make sure to update all pet profiles with any new health issues, changes in diet or new medications.

## Featured Organization of the Month



C.A.R.T

The Westmoreland/Fayette/Allegheny County Animal Response Team (CART) is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to helping animals in times of disaster or emergency. Every County has a CART, which operates under the guidance of the State Animal Response Team (SART). CART Members come from all walks of life but share a love for animals, and are trained, credentialed emergency response officials. CART has two primary missions. The first is temporary sheltering for animals displaced by emergencies or disasters, such as fires, floods, extreme weather, etc. Like the Red Cross, which opens temporary shelters for people who have had to evacuate their home, CART can quickly set up a temporary animal shelter for animals displaced as a result of a disaster or emergency. It is critically important that when people must evacuate their home that they take their pets with them, and CART can give them peace of mind

knowing that there is a safe place for their pets to go while they are in a temporary shelter for people. CART does not just deal with small animals like dogs, cats, reptiles, birds, etc., but can also, if need be during a disaster, arrange temporary sheltering for large animals such as horses as well as livestock. CART can also provide "Pet Care Comfort Kits" of supplies for people who may have lost everything in a disaster.

CART's other main mission is technical rescue, and that generally involves the use of specialized equipment to rescue animals that have somehow gotten themselves "stuck." Just a few of the technical rescues CART has conducted include the rescue of horses stuck in mud or cast in a trailer or stall, the extrication of a calf that had fallen into an abandoned mine shaft, a cat in a wall, and a dog in a sewer line. While all CART Members have completed extensive training, those serving on the Large Animal Team are required to complete specialized large animal technical rescue training due to the dangers involved when dealing with large animals such as horses or livestock, as well as the need to be proficient in the use of specialized rescue equipment.

CART is generally called out through 911 or by other First Responders or the Red Cross. While CART is not authorized to enforce animal cruelty laws, it can be called out to assist Humane Officers or Police for such things as animal hoarding situations. Also, while CART does not normally deal with wildlife, it can provide assistance to the Game Commission or Wildlife Centers by transporting injured wildlife.

CART is especially proud of its Pet Oxygen Mask Program. Program Sponsors provide funding for the purchase of special pet oxygen masks, and CART then distributes the masks to fire departments and other first responders, and also provides them with training on the masks as well as pet first aid and CPR. To date CART has been able to provide over 370 sets of pet oxygen masks to over 125 fire departments or other emergency response organizations.

More information about CART, including how to become a CART Member, sponsor pet oxygen masks, make a monetary donation, or donate items for our Pet Care Comfort Kits, can be found on CART's website: <http://westmorelandcart.weebly.com/>

You can also find information about recent incidents, activities, etc. on CART's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/WFACART.PA/>

## June Birthdays



These pets will be celebrating a birthday in the month of June!

Waffles Budilovsky  
Dottie Escalante  
Aiden Oslick  
Kyrie Robinson  
Jennie Comstock  
Nero Dowling  
Maggie Mack  
Rooney Miller  
Angel Creamer  
Lilly Creamer  
Cheese Dvorshock  
Bella Massarelli  
Mulligan Budilovsky  
Presley Chatlos  
Luke Kelly  
Darwin Miller  
Morticia Falk  
Elvira Falk

Happy Birthday, all! Paw-ty hard!

## Healthy Homemade Treats for the Season

### Frosty Paws

#### INGREDIENTS:

- \* 1 large container (32 oz) of low-fat, plain, organic yogurt
  - \* 3 handfuls of fresh blueberries
  - \* 1 banana
  - \* 2 tbsp of peanut butter (
- Can be made with other fruits like apples, pineapples, watermelon, etc



#### DIRECTIONS:

Chop up the banana in small pieces (or mash) and mix all ingredients together. Place the mixture in ice cube trays and freeze for about 3 hours.

Once frozen, run hot water over the under side of the trays, pop out the frosty paws, and serve. That's it.

### Frozen Tuna Treats

#### INGREDIENTS:

- Can of water-packed tuna (or canned salmon)
- Approximately ½ c water



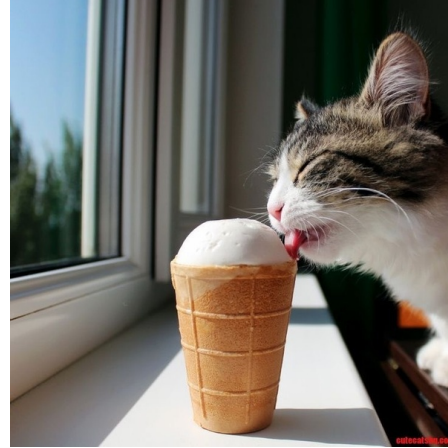
- A mixing bowl or Magic Bullet
- A Ziploc bag

#### DIRECTIONS:

Start by mashing up the tuna in your bowl or stuffing it into your food mixer. Don't drain the tuna water as it helps with the freezing. Add about half a cup of water to the mix.

Then mix up that tuna in a magic bullet or food processor

Fill your Ziploc bag with the mix and cut a small hole in one end. This helps save you from making a huge mess while filling up the ice cube trays. Fill your trays and place in the freezer for a couple hours.



Enjoy our homemade recipes? We have a color cookbook full of fun recipes for both dogs and cats!

### Comfort at Homemade Pet Treats



Do you want to give your pet healthy treats without all the preservatives?

Do you want to know all the ingredients in your pets treats and be able to pronounce them?

Are you looking for something to do with your new downtime?

### OUR COOKBOOK IS FOR YOU!

Our homemade pet recipes are a hit with pets of all ages! For only \$15 you can get your very own copy of our Comfort at Homemade Pet Treats cookbook! The cookbook will be sent to you via email in pdf format, so please make sure to note which email address you would prefer us to send your cookbook.

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