

# Wildfire Smoke & Animals

## Health advisories for air quality also apply to animals.

*Birds are particularly susceptible to particulates in the air.*

If you've been experiencing a headache, scratchy throat, or breathing issues due to wildfire smoke, your body is reacting to toxins in the smoke. This smoke also affects pets, birds, horses, livestock and wildlife in similar ways.

### Signs of Smoke or Dust Irritation in Animals

- ▶ Unusual coughing, sneezing or gagging
- ▶ Difficulty breathing, including open mouth breathing
- ▶ Eye irritation and excessive watering
- ▶ Inflammation of throat or mouth
- ▶ Nasal discharge
- ▶ Asthma-like symptoms
- ▶ Increased breathing rate
- ▶ Weakness and lethargy

*If you are in an area where wildfires are active, please be sure to include your pets, horses, livestock and other animals in your evacuation planning.*

### Tips to Keep Animals Safe from Wildfire Smoke

- ▶ Keep pets and pet birds indoors with the windows shut.
- ▶ Avoid intense outdoor exercise during periods of poor air quality. Exercise pets when dust and smoke has settled.
- ▶ Limit time outdoors for pets on days designated with a red air quality alert to quick potty breaks.
- ▶ Pet birds need to remain indoors as much as possible during the highest level advisories.
- ▶ Animals that have cardiovascular or respiratory disease are at increased risk during periods of poor air quality and should be watched closely.
- ▶ Include your animals in potential evacuation planning. Take your pets with you if you leave.

**If your pet is experiencing breathing difficulties or eye irritation, please consult with your veterinarian.**



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