

Released 3/16/20

8:15am

#### ATRIUM ANIMAL HOSPITAL AND WELLNESS CENTER

At Atrium, the safety and well-being of clients, our animal family and staff is our top priority. We are committed to providing the services you need while protecting the community we serve. With all the news regarding the coronavirus, we want to share the procedures we have put into place. While these are standard procedures for us, we are taking extra care to monitor them.

1. We are sanitizing the clinic 3 times per day: wiping down counters, computers, phones, and mopping floors.
2. Staff are washing hands after working with each patient, before and after eating and through out the day.
3. We have hand sanitizer at various stations thru out the hospital.
4. We are supporting staff who may feel sick to stay home for 14 days to take care of themselves! This is the current recommendation.
5. Staff will be avoiding hand contact with clients and each other.
6. We are encouraging staff to get adequate sleep, drink lots of water, eat healthy and exercise to keep their immune systems strong!

If you have any concerns regarding entering and waiting in the clinic, please call us on your cell phone from the parking lot. We will have a technician come out and get you and/or your pet (in case you are not feeling well).

*We want to be smart, safe and prepared. Let's also find space to include joy, ease and peace in these anxious times! We appreciate you allowing us to care for you and your furry family!*

Released 3/16/20

1:30pm

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### **Update from the American Veterinary Medical Association**

Infectious disease experts and multiple international and domestic human and animal health organizations agree **there is no evidence at this point to indicate that pets become ill with COVID-19 or that they spread it to other animals, including people.**

If you are not ill with COVID-19, you can interact with your pet as you normally would, including walking, feeding, and playing. You should continue to practice good hygiene during those interactions (e.g., wash hands before and after interacting with your pet; ensure your pet is kept well-groomed; regularly clean your pet's food and water bowls, bedding material, and toys).

Out of an abundance of caution, **it is recommended that those ill with COVID-19 limit contact with animals until more information is known about the virus.** Have another member of your household take care of walking, feeding, and playing with your pet. If you have a service animal or you must care for your pet, then wear a facemask; don't share food, kiss, or hug them; and wash your hands before and after any contact with them.

As always, careful handwashing and other infection control practices can greatly reduce the chance of spreading any disease.

Keeping in touch,

Dr. Kim Vita Hombs