



TRAVELING WITH PETS

Pets are an important part of many families, and their care during your move should be considered well in advance. Take your pet to the veterinarian for an exam prior to your move. The vet may be able to recommend the best method of transporting your pet as well as tranquilizers for your furry friend during travel.

Keep a copy of the pet's health record with you to have handy while you travel. Some states may have restrictions on the movement of pets across state lines. Check with your State Veterinarian or State Department of Agriculture or Animal Husbandry. In addition, review the U.S. State and Territory Animal Import Regulations Website, www.aphis.usda.gov. Click on the *Import and Export* link under *Browse by Subject*.

Prior to entering most states, interstate health certificates must be obtained for dogs and horses. In addition, states require rabies vaccinations for dogs, and some may require it for cats. Some states may require that your pet be quarantined. When entering a new state, you may be subjected to a border inspection. A few states have mandatory inspections of animals being transported, others have random inspections. Some pets require a special entry permit issued by the destination state's regulatory agency prior to admittance. Check with your destination state as well as states you will be traveling through to make sure you have everything necessary to transport your family friend.

Pets traveling by car:

- If your pet is unfamiliar with transport in a car, take multiple short trips prior to your move. This may help the animal become more acclimatized to, and comfortable with, travel.
- To reduce the possibility of nausea, do not feed your pet for several hours before the trip begins.
- Keep your pet on a leash at all times. They may easily become frightened by the commotion of moving and traveling, and may try to run.
- Assure that you have an identification tag on your pet stating the pet's name, your name, and your contact information should the pet become lost.
- Take fresh water and stop frequently.
- Pets should not be left in the vehicle unattended, even for a short time.