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LOSS CONTROL BULLETIN

Animal House Fire Prevention

Fact: *Annually, there are almost 1,000 house fires accidentally started because of a pet.*

You love your pets, but if you are not careful, they can put you, your family and themselves in danger. There are many hidden fire hazards in your house that your pet could accidentally find, putting everyone at risk. By following these simple safety tips, you can help ensure the safety of your family and your pets.

- Make sure stovetop knobs are removed, covered or locked. Dogs and cats often see something interesting on the top of the stove and will try to jump up and reach it. In the process, they could accidentally turn the stove on. This can be especially dangerous if it is at night or if you are gone.
- Make sure that candles and other flames are not left unattended. An animal can easily knock over a candle with their tail or by simply becoming curious. Consider using flameless candles that use a light bulb and not a burning wick and flame.
- Similar to what you do to child-proof your house, it is also important that you pet-proof your house. With this process, simply walk through your home looking for loose wires and other potential fire hazards that your animals could come in contact with.
- Do not use glass water bowls in direct sunlight. The rays from the sun can actually become hot enough to start a fire when they are filtered through the water. Also, it is important to avoid putting these bowls on flammable surfaces like wooden decks.
- Consider a “pet rescue” sticker on your window or door. This tag includes a space to put the number of cats, dogs and other animals in your house. This will let the firefighters know how many animals to look for in the house.
- When you are going to be gone, keep your pet in a room near the front door. By keeping your animals close to the door, it makes it less likely that they could get into a dangerous situation. It also makes it easier for firefighters to find and rescue pets in the event of a fire.
- Consider your pet during your fire escape drills with the rest of your family – ideally, every six months. You should also know where your pet likes to hide so that in the event of a fire you will know where to look for them. Use a leash or pet carrier to get them out if there is a fire, because they will most likely be very scared.

Help in Your Time of Need

No one wants to think about suffering a loss. In the unfortunate event you do have a loss, our **ANPAC Five Star Claim Servicesm** is designed to provide assurance and confidence to our policyholders throughout the claims process.

24-Hour Claims Hotline 1-800-333-2860

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