Keeping your dog safe

 Dog safety is comes in so many forms and it starts from the day you bring your little ball of fur home and hopefully it never ends. The beauty of learning is that there is something constantly new to learn. While working with a nonprofit organization that focused on pets and their safety, it seemed the goal was always to learn how to protect our pets from harm. The scope of this field seems never ending and the lists here are just such a small portion and we are aware there are many situations that can be added to them. In fact, they would probably love your feeding back, so if you have something to add please do so at [www.facebook.com/emmazenfoundation](http://www.facebook.com/emmazenfoundation) . The foundation focus on pet oxygen masks and that has them speaking a lot about fires and fire safety. Things we could add to the list like having working smoke detectors in your home and pet alert stickers on your doors and windows. Putting together a neighborhood pet count program and working with your local animal shelter and/or local disaster preparedness team. The issue with fire safety is what to do with your pet, before, during and after. And as talk goes then came into play: what about wildfires, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes and other natural disasters. Oh My Dog! How can we help all these pets and pet owner? The answer for us was to make sure everyone knew the fundamental, basic/intermediate/advance safety protocol that could help you and your pet avoid or be prepared for an emergency. While we were doing this some fun and new techniques were created: We call these Safety Games ™. Safety Games are games we play based on behavior actions we could foresee us needing our dog to respond to in the event of an emergency such as a natural disaster that your area may be subject to. In California where the foundation I spoke of is located, we experience earthquakes. So we came up with a game to help our dog learn to dive under the table! And since fire safety is our thing we found a fun helpful way for our dogs to respond to fire and smoke alarms. Of course you may live in a different area with a different environmental concern. Just think about yourself. What is it you do when your emergency strikes? Do you have warning signals? Where would you like your dog to be if a situation arises? Then use the techniques in the Safety Games brochure and have fun teaching your pet how to respond to an emergency situation. Your dog and you can have some new quality time. He’ll learn a trick that could save his life and you just may end up having a lot of safety fun!
These categories include but are not limited to the items listed below.
Basic Safety:

1. Veterinarian care
2. Proper feeding
3. Exercise
4. Bathing
5. Nail trimming
6. Teeth cleaning
7. Vehicle transportation and restraints

Intermediate Safety:

1. Getting down on all fours and doggie proofing your environment.
2. Educating yourself on what to plant in your yard.
3. Knowing what may be hazardous in your garage.
4. Knowing what environmental hazards may be in an area. Especially if you travel with your pet
5. Basic and Advance Obedience Training!!! I can’t stress this enough. Even if you have a pet that obeys your every command dogs learn and maintain that knowledge through consistency. A strong SIT/STAY/COME could save your pet in a case of emergency. Practice Practice Practice and if they know it all put a twist on the command. Add, distances, length of time to the command, have someone else practice with your pet. Besides giving your pet the repetition they require, it will keep your pet learning something new, and a challenged pet can makes a happy pet.

Advance Safety:

1. Emergency preparedness kits. Being prepared for natural disasters.
2. Pet first aid kits and pet first aid training! Did you know that according to the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) 25% more pets would survive if at least one technique was applied prior to getting veterinary treatment. 25 Percent!
3. Making sure your fire department is equipped to save your pets life! Pet Oxygen Masks and pet specific training are two conditions we are establishing in our area and teaching others to establish in theirs.

And then there is just down right off the chart fun and crazy pet safety!

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For more information visit [www.facebook.com/emmazenfoundation](http://www.facebook.com/emmazenfoundation)

Safety Games:



