

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 1, 2022

HOUSTON PETSET URGES PET OWNERS TO PREPARE FOR WINTER WEATHER AND BRING ANIMALS INSIDE

As an Arctic blast arrives in the Greater Houston area later this week, animals who live outside are at risk of perishing in the cold.

(HOUSTON, TX) – [Houston PetSet](https://www.houstonpetset.org), a local nonprofit organization working to end Houston’s homeless animal crisis, is strongly urging pet owners to prepare for the Arctic blast set to arrive in the Houston area on Thursday, February 3.

When taking dogs out for walks in the cold, dress smaller and short-haired breeds in a warm coat or sweater. Allow outdoor cats access to a shelter or garage. Provide farm animals with at least a three-sided shelter, ensure that they have access to fresh forage, and periodically check water buckets and troughs for freezing. Make sure all animals stay hydrated and have access to regular meals.

Most importantly, if at all possible, **do not leave pets outside in the cold**. According to Texas state law, dogs must be provided with adequate shelter and cannot be tethered during extreme weather events, which includes temperatures dropping below 32 degrees Fahrenheit. If someone sees a pet that they believe is being unlawfully restrained in this dangerous weather, please call local animal control and file a report.

BRRRRR...WINTER IS HERE!

- **Bring outside pets inside**
- **Make sure outside pets (including farm animals) have access to insulated shelter, fresh food, and water that isn't frozen**
- **If you see a dog tethered outside in below-freezing temperatures, call 832.927.PAWS**



“With the cold weather approaching, we are already getting calls from rescue groups and street feeders concerned about outdoor dogs,” says Houston PetSet Co-President Tena Lundquist Faust. “Dogs should not be left outdoors when it gets this cold, especially if they are chained and cannot move around for warmth. At Houston PetSet, we are preparing to provide dog houses to as many owners as we can if the need arises.”

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ABOUT HOUSTON PETSET: Houston PetSet gives, connects, and advocates for lasting solutions in Houston to alleviate suffering and end companion animal homelessness. The 501c3 nonprofit umbrella organization does this through their own local programming and by supporting groups that have demonstrated accountability and are making an impact “in the trenches” in our community for the animals.