



Planning for Your Animal Companions

Our animal companions are important members of our families, and we know how much they depend on us. That's why it is crucial to make careful preparations for their future care in the event that we are no longer able to care for them ourselves. There are steps that you can incorporate into your estate planning to ensure that your companion animals will receive the loving care that they are accustomed to and to make any transition for them as painless and stress-free as possible.

Short-Term Care: Have an Emergency Plan

It is essential to arrange for someone to come to your home on short notice to care for your animals in the event that you are hospitalized or unexpectedly prevented from

returning home. The person you choose will need to be able to feed and provide fresh water for your animals, console them, and meet their needs until their permanent care has been arranged. Many people select a family member or a neighbor with whom their animals are comfortable and give that person a key to the home. It is also a good idea to make arrangements with at least one other person in case your first choice is unable to provide short-term care at the time.

Long-Term Permanent Care: Finding Guardians You Trust

Your animals thrive on your personal attention and love—they share your home and routines. It is crucial, therefore, that you make arrangements for their