

Moving WITH Pets



Military members and their families move a lot! It is important to keep in mind that each move is unique and no matter how accustomed you have become to moving it is still stressful for everyone including your four-legged family members. For them, it can be even more stressful and anxiety provoking because they know something is going on but are not sure what it is. Everything they know will be changing. **Here is some advice to make the move easier, safer, and less stressful for your four-legged family members.**

- **ID Tags and Microchips** - There are a lot of things going on when you are packing, loading, moving, unloading and unpacking. You can easily lose track of your pets, it is not uncommon for them to get out or lost during the process. Before you begin your move be sure you have ID tags and microchips up to date. Your pet should have either-
 - A collar with a tag containing the pets name, your name, the destination address and your phone number.
 - A microchip with the most up to date contact information and address on file.
- **Your Pet's Essential Items** - it is important that you have your pets essential items in a location that is easily accessible. Some of the items you should have handy are food, water, bowls, favorite toys and blankets, litter, towels in case there is an accident or mess you need to clean up, and a leash. Keeping a few special treats handy to comfort your pet(s) and/or help control the pet(s) is also a great idea.
- **Keep Your Pet(s) Contained** - Keep your pet in a crate or room with a closed door that has a label indicating the animal is in there when you are packing, loading, and unloading boxes. It is easy to lose track of a pet especially when there are people coming and going leaving doors open to load and unload boxes. It is best to keep your pet in a quiet secure area, so they do not get lost during the move. This will keep them out of the way, so they do not interfere and will help reduce their anxiety and stress.
- **Routine, Routine, Routine**- Pets are comfortable and used to their everyday schedule, it is important that you try to keep their routine the same as much as possible. If you take your dog for a walk in the morning be sure you make time to do this. Feed your pet when you normally feed them and keep familiar items close to them like their bed or a toy. Give them a little extra love and attention to reassure them everything is okay.

- **Contact Your Vet** - Let your local vet know that you are moving so they can update your pet's information. They may be able to recommend a vet in the area you are moving and give you additional tips on what to do when moving with your pet.
- **Drive your Vehicle When Possible** - If you are able to drive your own vehicle it is best to do so because it is less stressful for your pet(s) when they are close to you and with familiar things. Be sure your pet is in a safe crate or carrier, do not let your pet(s) out of the carrier, it is dangerous for both you and your pet.
- **Let Your Pet Explore Their New Home** - Once you've unloaded all of your boxes, let your pet roam around and explore their new surroundings. Take a little time out from moving to play with your pet so they associate their new home as a positive place.

By remembering to do a few simple things you will make the move less stressful on you and your four-legged family members.



United Communities not only wants you to love our community, but we want your furry friends to love it too! For all of those that love your pets, this is the place for you. With our many dog parks, miles of walking/jogging trails and activities like Yappy Hour, we are more than just pet friendly community, we are a pet fun community. With no pet deposit and those extra high fees you pay at other communities, pets live free here at United Communities.

Contact the leasing office today for more information 609-200-0488

