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A cat lying on a washing machine. (Helene Jutras / Flickr.com / Creative Commons)

## Pet Oxygen Masks for Boston Fire Dept.

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(NewsCore) - The Boston Fire Department will now carry oxygen masks designed for pets to save animals from deadly smoke inhalation during fires, The Boston Globe reported Thursday.

"Smoke doesn't discriminate," Steve MacDonald, a department spokesman, was quoted as saying. "It affects everyone that relies on oxygen to breathe. Having a specific mask geared toward pets will go a long way to helping pets survive smoky conditions."

MacDonald told the paper that Boston firefighters previously managed with oxygen masks designed for humans, but those masks were ill-fitting on most pets and allowed much of the oxygen to escape.

The fire department received 60 pet masks as a donation from WellPet, a Boston-area natural pet food company, and the Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association, according to The Globe.

"We're proud to donate these pet oxygen masks to the Boston Fire Department, so that the city's firefighting heroes have the tools they need to save the lives of every member of our families, including our pets," Chanda Leary-Coutu, a spokeswoman for WellPet, said.

Read more: [Boston.com](#)

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