

Animal Disaster Planning Guide

We strongly encourage everyone to remember their pets when planning for emergencies.

If you aren't safe in your home, neither are your animals.

In case of an evacuation order:

Do not leave your animals behind to fend for themselves. Your pet could be lost, injured or killed during the disaster. When threatening conditions arise, confine your animals so you can leave with them quickly if necessary. Don't abandon them and, under no circumstances, leave them chained or locked in buildings or cages from which they cannot escape. Evacuate promptly before the disaster hits to avoid the possibility of needing rescue. There is no guarantee that whoever comes to save you will also be equipped to take your animal. While the PETS Act requires government entities to be prepared to handle pets during evacuations, depending on the severity of the incident, other rescuers may not have that capacity. Evacuating early with your family and your pet(s) is the best way to ensure you all are safe and together.

In case of a viral outbreak:

Depending on the disease, animals may be susceptible to certain viral infections. Wash your hands, disinfect all surfaces and limit contact with others if you start exhibiting symptoms. If you test positive for a viral infection, your pet should be a part of your family's quarantine. Minimize contact with your pet while you are sick and do not send them to boarding or daycare. Check with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) at cdc.gov and the World Health Organization (WHO) at who.int for any additional instructions regarding contagious diseases and pets.

Have a Plan. Share Your Plan.

Every family should have a disaster plan, regardless of whether you live in an area that is commonly affected by severe weather. All family members should know the plan, including what essential items need to be packed last minute. Talk with your neighbors about emergency access to each other's homes and research what plans your community already has in place.

Your Pet's Information

- Date of last rabies vaccination: _____
- Rabies tag #: _____
- Microchip #: _____
- Identifying features: _____

Medications/Treatments:

- Medication: _____ Due Date: _____
- Medication: _____ Due Date: _____
- Medical conditions: _____

Emergency Kit Supplies

- Collar & tags
- Pet carrier
- Medications
- First aid kit
- Copies of vaccination records
- Leash
- 1-2 weeks of food
- Towels
- Food/water bowls
- Litterbox supplies or pet waste bags

Notes