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# Prepare Your Pets for Disasters

YOUR PETS ARE AN IMPORTANT MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY, SO THEY NEED TO BE INCLUDED IN YOUR FAMILY'S EMERGENCY PLAN.

To prepare for the unexpected, follow these tips with your pets in mind:

- Make a plan.
- Build an emergency kit.
- Stay informed.



## MAKE A PLAN

IF YOU HAVE A PLAN IN PLACE FOR YOU AND YOUR PETS, YOU WILL LIKELY ENCOUNTER LESS DIFFICULTY, STRESS, AND WORRY WHEN YOU NEED TO MAKE A DECISION DURING AN EMERGENCY.

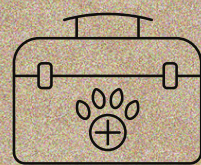
Things to include in your plan:



- **Have an evacuation plan for your pet.** Many public shelters and hotels do not allow pets inside. Know a safe place where you can take your pets before disasters and emergencies happen.
- **Develop a buddy system.** Plan with neighbors, friends, or relatives to make sure that someone is available to care for or evacuate your pets if you are unable to do so.
- **Have your pet microchipped.** Make sure to keep your address and phone number up-to-date and include contact information for an emergency contact outside of your immediate area.



## BUILD A KIT FOR YOUR PET



HERE ARE SOME ITEMS YOU MAY WANT TO INCLUDE IN AN EMERGENCY KIT FOR YOUR PET:

- **Food.** Keep several days' supply of food in an airtight, waterproof container.
- **Water.** Store a water bowl and several days' supply of water.
- **Medicine.** Keep an extra supply of the medicine your pet takes on a regular basis in a waterproof container.
- **First aid kit.** Talk to your veterinarian about what is most appropriate for your pet's emergency medical needs.
- **Collar with ID tag and a harness or leash.** Include a backup leash, collar, and ID tag. Have copies of your pet's registration information and other relevant documents in a waterproof container and available electronically.
- **Traveling bag, crate, or sturdy carrier.** Include one for each pet.
- **A picture of you and your pet together.** If you become separated from your pet during an emergency, a picture of you and your pet together will help you document ownership and allow others to assist you in identifying your pet.

