

do 1 thing

SMALL STEPS TOWARD BEING PREPARED FOR AN EMERGENCY

Pet Preparedness

▶▶▶ **Making a plan for your pets in case an emergency strikes will help ensure they will be part of your family for many years to come.**

Supplies

When you are in a hurry, it is easy to overlook small and important items. Common items like pet food might not be easy to find right after a disaster. Trying new brands of food or not having a comfort item can make disasters more stressful for pets. Make a list of special items you may need in a disaster.



Water

Include one gallon for a medium size pet. That one gallon should last three days, but plan for more or less if your pet is very large or very small.



Food

Have three days worth of food in your pet's emergency supplies. A large duffel bag or plastic tub with a lid makes a great storage place for an emergency food supply. Make sure your family, including pets, will have what they need when disaster strikes.



Other Supplies

Along with the basics, think about these items:

- Pet food & water
- Collar with ID tags
- Pet medication(s)
- Pet carriers and leashes
- Medical records from vet
- Photos of your pet
- Microchip information



Shelter

Except for service animals, pets are not generally allowed in shelters. Make a plan to make sure pets are taken care of in a disaster.

A disaster may happen while you are away from home. Your neighborhood may be evacuated, or you could be trapped somewhere else and unable to get home. Consider asking a trusted neighbor to check on your pets if you can't get home because of a disaster or emergency. You may also ask them to take your pets with them if an evacuation is ordered while you are not home. Make sure they are comfortable with your pet, and that they know where to find leashes and other supplies.



First Aid

Take training in pet first aid. Many American Red Cross chapters now offer training in pet first aid. Training may also be available through your local humane society, kennel club, or pet store. Check with your veterinarian to see what special items you may need to include in a first aid kit for your pets. If you travel with your pet, or if they are service or hunting animals, you may want to make a travel-sized pet first aid kit as well.



Get Involved

Promote emergency preparedness in your community.



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