

Pet Plan During a Disaster

Pets depend on us for their safety and well-being, so be sure to include them in your family emergency plan. If you must evacuate, the most important thing you can do to protect your pets is to evacuate them with you. **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR PETS BEHIND!**

Take the following steps to prepare to shelter your pet:

- Call your local Emergency Management office, animal shelter or animal control office so that you can designate where pet boarding facilities are located.
- Find out which local hotels and motels allow pets. Be sure to research some outside your local area in case local facilities close.
- Have identification tags on all animals at all times. If possible, attach the address and/or phone number of owner to ID tag. Make sure you have a current photo (front/side) for identification purposes. Have pet medical records and contact information for the veterinary to prove vaccinations are current.
- Make sure you have a secure pet carrier, leash or harness for your pet so that if he/she panics, they can't escape.
- Make sure transportation equipment (cages, carriers, trailers, etc.) are checked and maintained regularly to be ready at a moments notice.
- Identify a safe location inside your home/facility in the event you cannot leave during a disaster.
- Know that, with the exception of service animals, pet ***are not*** typically permitted in emergency shelters as they may affect the health and safety of other occupants.

For more information go online to <http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp> and take FEMA online independent study classes. Recommended courses:

IS-10 Animals in Disaster, Module A: Awareness and Preparedness

IS-11 Animals in Disaster, Module B: Community Planning

IS-111 Livestock in Disasters

