

Preparing For Your Pets Makes Sense.

If you are like millions of animal owners nationwide, your pet is an important member of your household. The likelihood that you and your animals will survive an emergency such as a fire, flood, earthquake, terrorist attack or biochemical disaster depends largely on the preparation you do today. Whether you plan to stay or evacuate to a safe location you will need to make plans in advance for your pets. Always keep in mind that you should be prepared to improvise and use what you have on hand to make it on your own for at least 3 days or maybe longer.



Stay Informed

Some of the things you can do to prepare for the unexpected, such as assembling an emergency supply kit for yourself, your family and pets, is the same regardless of the type of emergency. However, it is important to stay informed about what might happen and know what types of emergencies are likely to affect your region as well as emergency plans that have been established by your state and local government. For more information about how to prepare, visit www.ready.gov or call 1-800-BE-READY.



Local Sponsorship provided by:



**Solano County
Office of Emergency Services**

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Solano County Office of Emergency Services



*Prepare Pets
For a Disaster*

**GET READY
NOW!**



Phone: 707-784-1600

Prepare a Pet Disaster Supply Kit



Just as you do with your families' disaster kit, think first about the basics for survival, particularly food and water. Consider two kits. In one, put everything you and your pets will need to stay where you are. The other should be a lightweight, smaller version you can take with you if you and your pets need to get away. Plus, be sure to review your kits regularly to ensure their contents, especially foods and medicines, are fresh.



FOOD. Keep at least 3 days of food in an airtight waterproof container.

WATER. Store at least 3 days of water specifically for pets.

MEDICINE AND RECORDS. Keep an extra supply of medicines your pets take on a regular basis in a waterproof container.

FIRST AID KIT. Talk to your vet regarding what is most appropriate for your pets emergency medical needs. Most kits contain cotton bandages, bandage tape, scissors, antibiotic ointment, flea and tick prevention, latex gloves, isopropyl alcohol, saline solution and a first aid book for pets.

COLLAR, TAGS, HARNESS AND LEASH. Your pet should wear a collar with rabies tag and identification at all times. Include a backup leash, collar and ID tag in your pet's kit. In addition, place copies of your pet's registration, adoption papers, vaccinations and medical records in a waterproof container. You should also consider permanent identification by micro chipping and enrolling your pet in a recovery database.

CRATE OR PET CARRIER. If you need to evacuate, take your pets with you provided that it is practical to do so. Your ability to do so will be aided by a sturdy, safe crate or carrier ready for transporting your pet. The carrier should be large enough for the pet to stand and turn around in.

SANITATION. Include pet litter and box if appropriate, newspapers, paper towels, plastic trash bags and chlorine bleach. You can use bleach as a disinfectant (dilute nine parts water to one part bleach), or in an emergency you can use it to purify water. Use 16 drops of regular household bleach per gallon of water. **DO NOT** use scented or color safe bleach or those with added cleaners.

PHOTOS. If you become separated from your pet during an emergency or disaster, a photo of you and your pet together will help to document ownership and allow others to assist you in identifying your pet, include detailed information about species, breed, age, sex, color and distinguishing characteristics.

FAMILIAR ITEMS. Place favorite toys, treats or bedding in your kit. This can help to reduce stress.



Plan . . .

What Will You Do?

Depending on your circumstances you must decide whether to stay put or get away. You must plan for both.

CREATE A PLAN TO GET AWAY. Plan how to assemble your pets and anticipate where you will go. If you must evacuate take your pets with you if practical. Keep in mind that you may not be able to take pets to a public shelter. Consider family and friends that may take you in during an emergency. Other options are a hotel/motel that accept pets, veterinary, kennel or pet boarding facility. Identify these facilities prior to an emergency.

DEVELOP A BUDDY SYSTEM. Plan with neighbors, friends or relatives to take care of your pets if in the event you are not able. Tell your buddy about your evacuation plans and show them where the pet disaster kit is located. Pre-determine a meeting place.

GATHER CONTACT INFORMATION FOR EMERGENCY TREATMENT. Make a list of agencies including animal control, the Humane Society or SPCA and also include your Veterinarian's name and phone number. Keep one copy with you and one in the pet kit. Obtain "pets inside" stickers and place them on your doors and windows. Should you flee with your pets write "evacuated with pets" across the stickers.