EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS for dogs and cats

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Emergency Preparedness Kit for Pets

Supplement your emergency plan with this checklist, tailored specifically to your pets. This list assumes that you already have an emergency kit prepared for the human members of your family, so it doesn’t list items that would be duplicates (say, a flashlight). For ideas on what to pack for the human members of your family, check out FEMA’s Build-a-Kit resource.

- An extra leash and collar with up-to-date ID tags for each animal
- A jump drive with each animal’s vet records and a recent photo or a pre-made lost pet flier
- Crates for each animal (TIP: Train your pet to get used to the crate before you need it!)
- Canned food—and a can opener, if needed—for three days’ worth of food for each pet
- Water for three days for each pet
- Bowls
- Current medications
- First-aid kit
- Disposable litter tray and litter (TIP: Those disposable aluminum baking pans available at any grocery story work well.)
- Pickup bags and potty pads
- A blanket for each pet
- If possible: toys, chews, treats, something to keep your pet busy or comforted

“There’s no harm in hoping for the best as long as you’re prepared for the worst.” - Stephen King

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Worksheet

Help your family get prepared for any disaster with this worksheet. Make sure everyone is on the same page and knows the plan, including a plan to reunite if you get separated or if one family member isn’t home when the disaster strikes.

What is your family's shelter-in-place plan?
Where will you hunker down? What supplies are there? Are there any emergency steps to take, i.e. turning off the gas?

What is your family's evacuation plan?
Where is your emergency kit stored? Where will you go? Where will you go? How will you get back together if your family is separated?

Who's responsible for the pets, and what is the plan to keep them safe during a shelter-in-place or an evacuation?