



Disaster Preparedness

How you can protect your pets in
case of disaster

Disaster Preparedness for Pets - Overview

- Have a disaster kit in advance
- If you evacuate, take the pets with you
- Don't forget ID
- Find a safe place ahead of time
- What to do if you decide to stay
- What to do as the disaster approaches
- What to do in case you aren't home
- What to do after the disaster
- Other evacuation tips

Disaster Supply Checklist

- Stock up on non perishables in advance and perishables at the last minute
- Medications and medical records/first aid kit in a waterproof container
- Leashes, carriers and cages to prevent escape
- Food/water for at least 3 days. Bedding, bowls, water bottles and litter/litter box.

Carrier Setup



Disaster Supply Checklist

- Current photos and descriptions of pets to identify in case of separation
- Feeding/medication schedules, medical conditions, behavior issues and vet info.
- Pet beds and toys to reduce stress.
- Paper towels, plastic bags and bleach



If you evacuate, take the pets

- If not safe for you, not safe for them
- Don't turn animals loose or tie/chain them up
- Assume that you will not be able to return in a few hours – take the pets.
- Leave early if you plan to leave.

Don't forget ID!

- Pets should have up to date identification (tags/collars, microchips)
- Identification if possible should include a phone number of someone outside of the immediate area as a contact.

Find a safe place ahead of time

- Contact hotels/motels to check pet policies
- Ask if no-pet rules can be waived
- Check with friends, relatives or others
- Have a list of boarding facilities/vets
- Ask the local shelters if they provide foster care/shelter for pets.

If you don't evacuate

- Have a safe area in the home for all
- Keep pets in carriers and make sure they have identification
- Have medications and the disaster kit on hand
- Have emergency power/air conditioning on hand and gasoline to run generators

Portable air conditioner



As the disaster approaches

- Don't wait until the last moment to get ready
- Call to confirm emergency shelter arrangements
- Bring pets inside and confine
- Make sure disaster supplies are ready to go

In case you are not home

- Have arrangements in place with a trusted neighbor/friend

After the disaster

- Don't allow pets to run loose
- Keep pets in carriers or confined
- Be patient with pets – get back to a normal routine as quickly as possible

Other evacuation tips

- All mobile home residents should evacuate
- Evacuate to the safest location closest to home
- Identify evacuation routes and have alternates
- **PRACTICE** your evacuation and packing!

Disaster preparation test

- Can you gather all pets and put into carriers in time? Do you have carriers for all pets?
- Are all pets wearing identification?
- If a pet escapes the carrier, do you have a photo to identify?
- Do you know where to go with pets in the event of an emergency evacuation?

Disaster preparation test

- Do you know of pet friendly motels/hotels nearby?
- Do you know where your local emergency animal shelter is located?
- Do you have your veterinarian's telephone number in case your pet becomes ill?

Who will care for my pet?

- Each state has laws in place recognizing pet trusts as legal
- Have not only a will but a codicil in place in the event of your death/incapacitation stating who will care for your pets.

What is a codicil?

- A codicil is an amendment to your will which can add or alter the terms of your will.
- Advantages - codicils are not as expensive as creating a will and if contested, the original will is still valid.

Why have a Codicil/Will?

- Specifically states who will care for your pets.
- Can award monetary amounts for their care
- Can specifically state the level of care the pets must receive
- Can make the monetary gift conditional on caring for the pets

What to include in the codicil

- List each pet and medical conditions as well as the veterinarian you use.
- Designate a trustee or caregiver
- Make sure they know in advance
- Be specific when you set up the document
- List specific requests
- Have a back up plan

What to include in the codicil

- Spell out what happens in the event the pet(s) become terminally ill/die
- Keep a copy of the document

Lynnhaven Fishing Pier/Beach



Our Substation



Flooding



The pier during the storm



Starfish/Cape Henry



After the Hurricane



Pier after the Storm



Pier after the storm



Conclusion

- In the event of a disaster, preparing in advance and having a plan can mean the difference between having everything that you need – and not.
- There is no such thing as over preparation!
- Practice your evacuation

Isabel



Isabel says.. The end



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