

Disaster Planning for Dog Owners

Ready Your Dog

- Make sure your dog is wearing ID tags with your most up-to-date contact information.
- Microchip your dog as a more permanent form of identification—in case collars or tags come off.
- Train your dog to feel comfortable going into a crate with regular in-crate sessions with treats.
- Always bring pets indoors at the first sign or warning of a storm or disaster. Pets can become disoriented and wander away from home in a crisis.

Prepare Your Home

- Ideally, you should evacuate with your pet, but if you are unable to do so, a [rescue alert sticker](#) placed near your front door will let first responders know that you have a dog inside your home.
- If sheltering in place, consider these things when choosing your safe room:
 - » Be aware of hazards such as windows, flying debris, etc.
 - » Utility rooms, bathrooms and unfinished basements may be easier to clean if your pet has an accident.
 - » Having a supply of fresh water is particularly important. In areas that may lose electricity, fill up bathtubs and sinks ahead of time to ensure that you have access to water during a power outage or other crises.
 - » In the event of flooding, go to the highest location in your home, or a room that has access to counters or high shelves where your animals can take shelter.

Locate a Temporary Caregiver

(if your dog cannot stay with you after you evacuate)

- Contact your veterinarian for a list of preferred boarding kennels and facilities.
- Ask your local animal shelter if they provide emergency shelter or foster care for pets.
- Identify hotels or motels outside of your immediate area that accept pets.
- Ask friends and relatives outside your immediate area if they would be willing to take in your dog.



Create an Emergency Kit

- Obtain a crate that comfortably fits your dog, write your dog's name and your contact information on a piece of duct tape and stick it on the outside of the crate in case you become separated from your dog.
- Make a portable emergency kit that includes the following:
 - » Medical records
 - » Water (7 days' worth of bottled)
 - » Water bowls
 - » Pet food (3-7 days' worth of canned food with pop tops or dry food)
 - » Pet's medications
 - » [Pet first aid kit](#)
 - » Dish soap and disinfectant
 - » Disposable garbage bags for clean-up
 - » Extra collar, harness and leash
 - » Flashlight
 - » Blanket
 - » Recent photos of your dog (*hard copy in case your phone dies*)
 - » Toys

Consider putting the kit inside the crate and storing near an exit.