

Pet Tips During a Disaster from the South Pasadena Animal Commission

1. Have a carrying case, leash and collar for each pet.
2. Microchip your pet, and have an identification tag with his or her name, home address, and phone numbers (including one from out of state).
3. Keep two to three gallons of fresh water per animal. Refresh the water every few months.
4. Keep a two-week minimum supply of food per animal, and refresh the food every couple of months.
5. Keep a can opener and spoon nearby if using canned food.
6. Keep food and water bowls for each pet.
7. Keep bed, blanket, towels for bedding, and pet toys.
8. Remember newspapers, potty papers, litter boxes and other materials for refuse, along with paper towels, dish soap and plastic bags.
9. Keep medications and first aid supplies.
10. Keep vaccination records and other current medical records for each pet.
11. Write special instructions if your pet has special needs.
12. Have the emergency name and telephone number of your veterinarian, and nearby emergency clinics.
13. Keep a recent color photo of your pet in case he or she gets lost. Have a photo of you with your pet to help establish ownership in case of separation.

Summarized from "Disaster Preparedness for Your Pet"

Disaster preparedness is often overlooked when it comes to pets. Consider adding the following items to your home emergency preparedness kit:

A minimum of 2 to 3 gallons of fresh water per animal. Store in light-weight, sealed plastic containers.

A two-week supply of dry food in a sealed container

Water and food bowls

Blankets, towels, or newspapers for bedding

First aid equipment: gauze, tape, baby aspirin, tweezers, scissors, disinfectant

Health and vaccination records

Name and telephone number of your veterinarian

Care instructions if your pet has special needs

Leashes, collars and identification tags

Color photo of each animal.

In case you are required to evacuate, make advance arrangements to take your pets with you. Your animal's best protection is to remain with you. Because evacuation shelters vary in their pet policies, it is best that you have a plan in place.

Contact local hotels and motels to check their pet policy. Find out if a non-pet policy is waived during a disaster.

Talk to family and friends about their ability to give shelter to you and your animals.

Have emergency 24-hour numbers for your kennel and vet readily available.

If your pets include snakes, lizards, birds, or other animals, prepare a secure way to transport them. Don't forget to include food and water, as well as blanket or water mister to keep your pet comfortable.

Additional information is available for the FEMA website:
<http://www.fema.gov/individual/animals.shtm>