



# Pet Emergency Preparation Kit

When disaster strikes, being stocked and ready to face an emergency is the best way to keep your family safe. Your pets can't fend for themselves and are especially vulnerable if you're forced to batten down the hatches because of bad weather. Here, ten items to include in a pet emergency kit so that your entire family can weather a natural disaster safely.

## # 1 Water

The more you can store for you and your family the better, but a week's worth of water for each family member, including your pet, is a safe bet.

## # 2 Food

It is best to stock up on canned, wet food. Food in cans keeps better, and your pet will be less thirsty if they get moisture from their meal, thus enabling you to stretch out the precious water supply. Don't forget to pack a can opener and spoon!

## # 3 Medications

If your pet suffers a chronic condition that require the constant administration of medicine to keep them healthy, speak with your veterinarian to secure an emergency supply of pet medicines you may not have access to if your community is hit with severe weather.

## # 4 Proof of Ownership

You'll want to place photographs and/or any ownership papers of your pets in a sealed, airtight container as an essential component of your pet emergency kit. Keeping proof of ownership on hand will identify you as a pet owner.

## # 5 Proof of Recent Vaccinations

Some animal clinics and boarding facilities will offer shelter to pets, but require your animal have up-to-date vaccinations.

## # 6 An Emergency Help List

Knowing where you'll need to go to ensure your pet is safely cared for ahead of time will ensure your pet is safe for the duration of the emergency.

## # 7 Leashes and / or Pet Carriers

It is best to utilize leashes and/or carriers to restrain your pet from running out into unsafe conditions.

## # 8 ID Tags

Whether faced with an emergency situation or not, if you do become separated from your pets the best way to be reunited with them is to have additional ID tags you can fit them with in a hurry. Consider installing a microchip in your pet to help locate them as well. Just don't forget to keep your contact information up to date!

## # 9 First Aid Kit

Include items such as gauze to bandage an injury, hydrogen peroxide to disinfect a wound, and milk of magnesia to absorb poison should accidental ingestion occur.

## # 10 Creature Comforts

Your pet may be confined to a small space for an undetermined amount of time. Try to include a pet bed, extra litter, clean blankets and towels in your pet emergency kit.