

Adobe Animal Hospital Disaster Preparedness Suggestions

Preparing an evacuation plan in case of disaster will ensure your family's safety, including your pets. Since emergency shelters do not allow pets due to public health and safety reasons, it is of utmost importance that you plan in advance for the care of your companion animals.

PREPARATION

Familiarize yourself with animal shelters in your area. It may be necessary to contact them after a disaster to locate a missing pet. Also, call the National Lost Pet Hotline at 1-900-535-1515 to report a lost pet. Call the National Found Pet Hotline at 1-800-755-8111 to report a found pet.

Keep current photos and medical records of your pet. Take color photos of your pets, and be sure to show any distinguishing marks. Store these in a plastic bag along with a complete vaccination and medical history of your pet. These pictures can help reunite you with a lost pet.

Be sure to microchip your pet. This is a permanent identification chip that is implanted beneath the skin. All shelters and animal hospitals have microchip scanners.

Keep current identification on your pets at all times. Use properly fitting collars with name, address, and phone number. Consider including your cell phone and your home phone numbers.

Choose a trusted neighbor. Leave a key with someone who is comfortable and familiar with your pets. In the event of an emergency, they will be able to retrieve, feed, and care for your companions.

Keep a minimum two-week food & water supply at all times. Be sure to store dry food in air tight containers. If your pet eats wet food, you can purchase reusable plastic lids for the cans. Also, keep several gallons of water on hand.

Keep a backup supply of your pet's medications. A veterinarian may not be open for some time after a disaster. Ask for an extra supply of all medications your pet is taking and make sure to monitor their expiration. Store these in an air tight plastic bag.

Be aware of your pet's carrier or leash location at all times. If possible, store an extra leash or foldable cardboard carrier in your vehicle.

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Put together a first aid kit. First aid care does not replace a visit to the vet! Adobe Animal Hospital is an emergency hospital open 24 hours a day. Keep our phone number readily available: 650-948-9661. Learn and memorize our location at 396 First Street, Los Altos, California.

A First Aid kit should be an air tight container including:

Blanket	Saline Eye Wash
Eyedropper	Scissors
Flashlight	Thermometer & K-Y Jelly
Gauze	Towel
Hydrogen Peroxide	Tweezers
Q-tips	Vet Tape

PET DISASTER KIT

Your disaster preparedness could save your pet's life. Create a PET DISASTER KIT with items pertinent to your pet's health and safety. Include two weeks worth of all supplies. Use a large air tight container to store your kit and label it so it may be easily found by neighbors or rescue efforts.

What should my disaster kit include?

Portable carrier or leash	Owner Contact Information
Food and water bowls	Food and Water
Litter & litter box	Regular and Emergency Vet Information
Toys, bedding and treats (familiar items that will provide comfort for your pets.)	First Aid Kit
Medications	Diet & medication schedules
Health records, microchip information	Recent Pet Photos

Commercial disaster kits may also be purchased through various websites

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EVACUATION

It is NOT recommended that you leave your pets behind for any reason, but if an emergency evacuation takes place and you must, remember these guidelines to ensure your pet's health and safety:

Place a highly visible sign in a window to let neighbors and rescue workers know how many pets were left behind.

Leave plenty of water in a large open container that won't tip over.

Leave a timed feeder with as much food as possible. (You can find these at any pet store.)

Never cage or tie up your pet. Their chances of survival are much greater if they can escape easily.

In the event of a disaster, remember to remain calm. Pets are very intuitive and can sense distress in their owners. A well-practiced disaster plan can end up saving you and your pet's lives. For further information or any questions, contact your regular veterinarian.

