

# 5 Animal Disaster Preparedness Essentials

## 1 Identify evacuation locations

- Find places that can accommodate pets if you evacuate; consider pet-friendly hotels, kennels and/or loved ones
- Write down locations and store them with your disaster kit
- Practice loading your pets into carriers and your vehicle

## 2 Microchip your pets

- It is the single best way to reunite lost pets and families
- Update microchip registration when you move, change phone numbers or get a new emergency contact
- Secure a sturdy, legible ID tag on your pets' collars, too

## 3 Start a buddy system

- Exchange keys with someone who can evacuate your animals if you are not home when disaster strikes
- Give your buddy your pets' information and your emergency contact information
- Make sure your buddy is comfortable handling your pets

## 4 Assemble a disaster kit

- Assemble a kit for each animal in your household
- Keep the kit near an exit so it is easy to grab in case of an emergency
- Turn this card over for tips on what to include in your disaster kit

## 5 Take photos of you with your pet(s)

- Photos can prove ownership if you are separated from your pets
- Keep copies in your wallet and your disaster kit
- Give copies to a loved one who lives outside of your area
- Storing photos on your cell phone can also be useful

# Disaster Kit Checklist

## **Food**

- A one-week supply in airtight, waterproof containers
- If using canned food, include a can opener and spoon
- Rotate food every two months to avoid spoilage

## **Water**

- A one-week supply in airtight, waterproof containers
- Avoid storing in direct sunlight
- Rotate water every two months to avoid spoilage

## **First aid/Medication**

- Basic animal first aid kit and book
- At least a one-week supply of prescription medication
- Heartworm and flea/tick preventive

## **Identification**

- Photos of pets that show any distinguishing features
- Photos of you with your pets
- Temporary “write-on” identification tag
- Proof of vaccinations (in case you must board pet)

## **Animal care supplies**

- Collar and leash or harness
- Crate or carrier
- Collapsible food and water bowls
- Blanket, toys and treats

## **Cleaning supplies**

- Paper towels
- Dish soap
- Plastic bags or cat litter with litter tray

### **Visit [redrover.org](http://redrover.org) to:**

- Find more disaster preparedness resources
- Get disaster kit supply tips for various species
- Order supplies and planning materials

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