

# Basic Disaster Planning for Animals

## Two Simple Steps

1. Have a safe way to transport your animals
2. Know where you are going to take your animals

## LEAVE NO ANIMAL BEHIND



## That's all it takes

Disaster planning for animals does not need to be an overwhelming task! There are only two steps that you need to take to safeguard your animals. Once you have completed these two life-saving steps, you are well on your way to protecting the animals you are responsible for when a disaster strikes.

To take planning one step further, you can also put together, in a waterproof and secure container, the supplies needed to care for your animals during the time you are evacuated. It is suggested that you be self-sufficient for the first 72 hours.

## Animal disaster supply kit

You will have to set up your kit based on the types and number of animals you have. At a minimum, your kit should include the following:

**Food and water (include a food dish and water bowl) enough for min. of 3 days**

**Collar with identification**

**Sanitation items**

**Vet records**

**Current photographs of your animals, preferably with you**

**A way to keep your animal controlled and confined (harness or leash – crate or other pet carrier)**

**Long term medication**

**Favorite toys or bedding**

When it comes time to evacuate, what is most important is that you get you and your animals to safety. If you are putting lives at risk to grab your disaster kit, leave it behind. Animals are dependent on people to survive when disasters strike. That is why you, as a caregiver, need to take the time - **NOW** - to prepare to evacuate and care for them when something happens. If you don't, your animal may not survive.

## Have a back up plan

If you are not at home when a disaster strikes, who could you trust to step in and help your animals? That is the last question you need to ask yourself to complete your plan. Choose someone you trust that you can notify when you are going to be away from home. If they have animals, you can become each others back up person. Develop a buddy system. Plan with neighbors, friends or relatives to make sure that someone is available to care for or evacuate your pets if you are unable to do so. Talk with your pet care buddy about your evacuation plans and show them where you keep your emergency supply kit and provide telephone numbers of friends or relatives outside the immediate area for emergency contact.