



# Emergency preparedness checklist



Just as you do with your family's emergency survival kit, think first about the basics for your pet – **food, water, and warmth**. Be sure to store all valuable documents and perishables in an **airtight, waterproof container** for safekeeping.

## Emergency survival items

- Food**  
Store at least **3 days'** worth of non-perishable food your pet is used to, and a can opener.
- Water**  
Store at least **3 days'** worth of water for your pet.
- Medicines**  
Store a supply of your pet's medicines, dietary needs, or supplements.
- Veterinary records**  
Store copies of medical and vaccination records – including your vet's name and telephone number.
- First Aid kit**  
Store cotton bandage rolls, bandage tapes, scissors, tweezers, and latex gloves.
- Blanket/bedding**  
Familiar items like a favourite blanket or toys can help reduce stress for your pet.
- Sanitation**  
Poop bags or kitty litter, paper towels, plastic bags, gloves, and household bleach to clean.

## Identification

- Collar with ID disc**  
Add an ID disc to your pet's collar that states their name, your name, phone number, and, if there is room, your address.
- Register and microchip**  
If your pet gets lost, this is their easiest ticket home!
- Photograph**  
Store a current photograph of your pet.
- Back up**  
Save microchip details, medical and vet details, key contact details, and all photographs online.

## Equipment

- Lead, harness, or muzzle**
- Cages or carrier**

## Safe shelter places

Pets are usually not permitted in evacuation centres, so you need to plan and agree on a safe house or an animal shelter that you and your pet (or just your pet) can go to.

- A safe house**  
Plan and agree with a family member or friend if they will be the caregiver for your pet for any length of time, in case of a disaster.
- Place your caregiver's full name, address and phone number in your disaster survival kit**  
Adults and children in your household should know these primary and alternative contacts or carry this information with them.
- Show your caregiver where you keep disaster survival kits**  
In case you are not at home when disaster strikes and you are cut off from returning to your pet. This means your caregiver can feed and attend to your pet in the interim.
- Plan communications for after the event**  
Arrange a meeting place or a time to make contact by phone with your caregiver so you can be reunited with your pet.
- A safe shelter**  
Make a list of 'pet friendly' shelters (kennels, motels that allow pets, local vet centres). Most kennels require veterinary records before boarding pets. **Always call ahead** for a reservation as soon as you think you might have to evacuate from home.

## Give it a go

Try doing practice runs to ensure you can navigate quickly if a disaster strikes during the night or if there is a power cut.

