



**SFSPCA**

# Keeping Your Pets Safe in a Disaster

---

**It's important to keep your pets in mind as you make plans for a disaster. If you don't have a plan already, now is the time to make one. Below are some tips for keeping your furry friends safe.**

---

**Ensure that your pets are microchipped and wearing collars.**

Keep your contact information up-to-date with the microchip company. Not sure which company you're using? Your veterinarian can help.

**Plan a safe place to stay.**

Not all hotels allow pets. Make a plan with friends or relatives, or research which nearby hotels are pet friendly.

**What would happen to your pet if a disaster struck and you weren't home?**

Designate a trusted caregiver, preferably someone who lives close to you, and make sure that person has a set of your keys.

**Put together a disaster kit**

The kit should contain:

- 4-7 day supply of food and bottled water, including bowls.
- At least a 2 week supply of any medications, plus medical records, stored in a waterproof container. Consider including a pet first aid book
- A leash, harness, and carrier so you can easily transport your pet to a safe location. Blankets and towels inside the carrier will help keep your pet comfortable.
- Litter box, litter, scoop, and garbage bags.
- Current photos and descriptions of your pets. If you become separated, this will help rescue workers find your animals.

**If you evacuate, take your pet.**

It's impossible to know how long you'll be away from home; assume you won't be allowed to return for several weeks, even if you're told it will only be a day. Pets left behind in a disaster can be easily injured, killed, or lost. Don't wait for a mandatory evacuation order – leaving before will reduce stress and help everyone stay safe.