

# Preparing for Your Pets Makes Sense. Get Ready Now.



If you are like millions of animal owners nationwide, your pet is an important member of your household. The likelihood that you and your animals will survive an emergency such as a fire or flood, tornado or terrorist attack depends largely on emergency planning done today. Some of the things you can do to prepare for the unexpected, such as assembling an animal emergency supply kit and developing a pet care buddy system, are the same for any emergency. Whether you decide to stay put in an emergency or evacuate to a safer location, you will need to make plans in advance for your pets. Keep in mind that what's best for you is typically what's best for your animals.

If you must evacuate, take your pets with you if possible. However, if you are going to a public shelter, it is important to understand that animals may not be allowed inside. Plan in advance for shelter alternatives that will work for both you and your pets.

Make a back-up emergency plan in case you can't care for your animals yourself. Develop a buddy system with neighbors, friends and relatives to make sure that someone is available to care for or evacuate your pets if you are unable to do so. Be prepared to improvise and use what you have on hand to make it on your own for at least three days, maybe longer.

Preparing for the unexpected makes sense. **Get Ready Now.**



This information was developed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in consultation with:  
American Kennel Club, The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, American Veterinary Medical Association, and The Humane Society of the U.S.



AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB<sup>SM</sup>



THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS



THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.



Ready

Prepare. Plan. Stay Informed.®



FEMA

Ready

Prepare. Plan. Stay Informed.®



Preparing Your Pets for Emergencies Makes Sense. Get Ready Now.



FEMA

[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

