Why California Needs CARES

Animals play an integral role in society. Planning for their needs in a disaster should be a priority.

Pets are a part of the family for millions of Americans. Working animals provide valuable services to the community and production livestock contribute millions to our economy. When disaster strikes, people are intensely concerned about their animals.

CARES is Here to Help

When local and statewide disasters occur, the California Animal Response Emergency System (CARES) helps all animals in California by providing resources to local agencies.

CARES Mission

CARES is committed to serving the people of California by supporting animal care efforts during all phases of emergency management. CARES strives to lead by using an innovative and collaborative approach that complies with the Standardized Emergency Management System.

CARES, California Resources and You—Valuable Partnerships

Taking care of animals in disasters is important.

CARES relies on partners—counties, cities, private organizations and you—to include animals in disaster planning, response, and recovery.

CARES helps all animals in California:

- **Over 19 million domestic animals (including 7.1 million cats and 6.7 million dogs)**
- **Hundreds of thousands of sheep, goats and horses**
- **Millions of chickens, cattle and wild animals**

Your Part in CARES

CARES encourages California animal owners to have a plan in place during disasters. Here is what you can do:

PLAN

- Develop an emergency plan for your family and pets that includes:
  - Who will take your pets.
  - Where you and your pets will go.
  - How you will care for your pets.

PREPARE

- Prepare a pet emergency kit. Include food, water, medication, and first aid for at least three days, as well as leashes and pet carriers.
- Make sure all pets have identification.
- Photograph all pets.

PRACTICE

- Practice what you planned.
- Share information with your family and loved ones.
- Revisit your plan and kit periodically to make sure they are current.

Do you want to know more about helping animals in disasters?

CARES

California Animal Response Emergency System

cal-cares.com

Follow CARES on

CARES is jointly overseen by

cdfa CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Cal OES GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Prepared by the CVMA CALIFORNIA VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

CARES

Committed to Helping Animals in Disasters

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