1 PLAN

Make Arrangements for Your Pets Ahead of Time

Identify the types of disasters that may occur in your area. They can include natural disasters, large-scale accidents, and acts of terrorism.

- **Create an evacuation plan that includes your animals:**
  - Identify where you will take your pets, including alternate routes and locations.
  - Create a contact list of shelters, boarding facilities, hotels, kennels, fairgrounds, and equestrian centers.
  - Contact these locations to determine their animal policies.
- **Develop a buddy system:**
  - Plan with family, friends, or neighbors to ensure someone will evacuate and/or care for your animals if you are unable to do so.
  - Tell your buddy the details of your evacuation plan, including where the pet emergency kit will be.

2 PREPARE

An Emergency Kit and Pet ID Are Essential

Assemble a pet emergency kit and store it so it is easily accessible. Include:

- ✓ A one-week supply of food, water, medications, and a first aid kit.
- ✓ Copies of medical and vaccination records, along with your veterinarian's contact information.
- ✓ Several current photos and a written record of your animal's weight and special markings.
- ✓ Assess other items you may need specific to your animals. Examples include handling and restraint equipment, a can opener, bowls, a crate or pet carrier, tarps, a bucket, pet litter, and cleaning supplies.

Make sure your pet has some form of identification with contact information. Consider microchipping your animals.

Visit cal-cares.com to see a complete list of pet emergency kit items.

3 PRACTICE

Review and Update Your Plan Often

- Practice your plan with family members to ensure everyone understands their role.
- Refresh your pet emergency kit often, making sure that food and water is fresh and medication is current.
- Confirm that your pet's contact information is up to date.
- Talk to your veterinarian about your plan.

During a disaster, follow instructions from authorities and be prepared to adapt your plan as necessary.

Be Prepared

Emergency planning today will benefit you when a disaster strikes. It's important to have a plan in place for your family, but don't forget about your pets. With simple preparations, you can be ready for the unexpected.

Follow these tips from the California Animal Response Emergency System (CARES) to ensure the safety and survival of your animals when a disaster occurs.

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

CARES

California Animal Response Emergency System

cal-cares.com

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CARES is jointly overseen by

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CARES

California Animal Response Emergency System

Emergency Preparedness for Pet Owners

Be Ready When Disaster Strikes!

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