



PETS AND DISASTER

Be Aware

A disaster will be traumatic for your pets as well as you. **REMEMBER:** Pets are not allowed in Red Cross shelters for health and safety reasons. Please take the following steps to assure your pets are well-cared for, whether you'll be staying in your home, or you have to evacuate.

Prepare

Assemble a disaster supplies kit for your pet, including the following items (you may want to put these items with your 72-hour kit):

- Portable carrier (essential for cats)
- Food, potable water, bowls and can opener.
- Litter and litter box for cats
- Medications
- Pet first aid kit (available from the American Red Cross)
- Health records, including vaccination records
- Instructions on feeding, schedule and diet for your pet, medications and any special needs
- Leashes
- Make sure your dog or cat is wearing a collar that is securely fastened and that has up-to-date ID information
- Current photos of your pets in case they get lost.
- Ask friends or relatives if they would be willing to take your pet temporarily in case of a disaster
- Contact motels and hotels outside your local area about their policies on pets staying with you. Keep a list of pet-friendly places. Prepare a list of boarding facilities or veterinarians who could shelter a pet in the event of an emergency. Include 24-hour contact numbers.