

Prepping for Animals, Pets and Livestock

Disaster planning is a “what if” game – what if you were at work, away from home shopping, etc and your pets or livestock were at home with no one else there? What if a sudden disaster occurred in the middle of the night? Would you be able to fully accomplish everything you needed to and safely evacuate in time? Your plans for you and yours should be based on this kind of advance thinking. Basically this will be the same for your Animals, Pets and Livestock as it is for you and your family.

Like any preparedness exercise, you need a plan; an inventory of what you have and what you need (skills & goods); an emergency go-bag, including a first aid kit; food, water and shelter; an Animal Documentation Book and a budget to accomplish it all. Your animals, pets and livestock are no different.



From my research **the top 2, the very best and second to none, downloadable information PDF's are:**

Saving the Whole Family by the *American Veterinary Medical Association* at http://www.avma.org/disaster/saving_family_brochure.pdf . This covers the most variety of both Pets and Livestock.

Emergency Planning Workbook by the *Equine University* at <http://www.thehorse.com/pdf/emergency/emergency.pdf> . This includes forms for planning and your documentation book. Although geared to the horse, just substitute your pet or other livestock and use the above PDF for the detailed stuff on each particular type of animal.

A good *basic* site for **general animal, pet & livestock preparedness downloadable information** is: <http://www.accem.org/animalprep.html>

Your local humane organization, agricultural extension agent, or local emergency management agency *may* be able to provide you with information about *your community's disaster response plans*. For general information about animal disaster preparedness, write to **Disaster Services, The Humane Society of the United States,** 2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037;

call 202-452-1100; or visit www.hsus.org.

For **Community Pet Preparedness** see Ready.GOV (part of Homeland Security/FEMA) for some *basic and mind provoking ideas* (Yes basic, cause this is the government, but they do have this interesting section called *Lessons Learned* - humm) at:

http://www.ready.gov/america/toolkit_pets/

http://www.ready.gov/america/downloads/toolkit_pets/PetPreparednessToolkit_100429.doc



Disaster Readiness Tips for **OWNERS OF SERVICE ANIMALS** from the **National Organization on Disability** (www.nod.org/emergency or <http://www.accem.org/pdf/serviceanimalspets.pdf>)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) defines a service animal as “any guide dog, signal dog, or other animal individually trained to provide assistance to an individual with a disability.” They are not pets. Their jobs include: guiding people who are blind; alerting people who are deaf or hearing impaired to doorbells, fire alarms or a baby’s cry; pulling wheelchairs for people with mobility impairments; protecting a person who has seizures; and performing a therapeutic function for persons with mental illness or autism. The overwhelming majority of service animals are dogs, but a few horses have been trained to guide people who are blind, and a small number of monkeys assist people with quadriplegia.

Although service animals should wear identifiable collars, the ADA requires neither identification, licenses, nor training. Unlike pets, service animals and their owners may enter a wide range of public accommodations, such as stores, restaurants, museums, and transportation systems.

A service animal can be excluded from such places only if its behavior is a direct threat to the life or safety of people, or if it becomes a nuisance, e.g., through incessant barking. The animal’s owner is responsible for its behavior and for supplying any food, water, or medication it may need, even during a disaster.

In times of disaster, a service animal is permitted in a shelter, clinic, or any other facility related to the emergency, such as a Federal Recovery Center.

Be Ready: Create an Animal Ready Kit and a Go Bag

Create a comprehensive “ready kit” with supplies necessary to sustain your pet or service animal for a week or more. Don’t forget to stock a “go bag” containing the most essential items you’ll need if you must leave immediately. Also, be sure to pack a ready kit and go bag for you and your family as well (visit www.nod.org/emergency).

Consider including the following items:

- Two-week supply of water in plastic gallon jugs
- Cage/carrier (for each animal, labeled with contact information)
- Veterinary records and proof of ownership
- Favorite toys, treats, blankets
- First aid kit and manual (call your vet)
- Leash, collar, harness (for each animal)
- Litter, litter pan, litter scoop
- Manual Can opener and spoons

- Muzzles (dog or cat)
- Newspaper (for bedding or litter)
- Nonspill food and water dishes
- Paper towels and plastic baggies
- Stakes and tiedown

In your **Documentation Book** have a **Pet Record sheet for each pet, service animal or livestock**. If you are raising livestock, have a Documentation Book for your livestock containing the basic medical history and identification information. You can also have a CD/DVD that holds more detailed records such as breeding history, inoculations and the like.

Sample (found at <http://www.accem.org/pdf/individuapetrecord.pdf>)

Individual Pet Record:

(Please fill out one sheet for each pet that you have. Use back for more notes)

Name of pet: _____ (Attach pictures)

Name of owner: _____ Home phone: _____
 Cell phone number: _____

Species: Dog, Cat, Rodent, Bird, Reptile, Other: _____

Age: _____ Sex: Male, Female Intact Spayed/Neutered

Height: _____, Weight: _____, Colors: _____

Identifying marks: _____

Collar: ID tag: Microchipped: Other ID: _____

Diet: Foods: _____

Amount: _____, Times per day: Once, Twice, Self-feeding

Other food information: _____

Elimination: must be walked at least 4 times daily, uses papers, uses litter box,
 Other: _____

Veterinarian's name, phone number and address: _____

Health problems, special needs: _____

Medication: None, As needed, taken _____ times daily.

Type and dosage: _____

Crate/Carrier: , current ID tag attached: , where stored: _____

Muzzle: , Leash: , Choke chain: , Gentle leader/Halt: , Harness:

Temperament: calm, easy to handle; somewhat fearful; may snap/scratch,

Dog friendly; Cat friendly; Caution: _____

Favorite treats, toys, games, other info: _____

General Tips:

Make a disaster plan to protect your property, your facilities, and your animals. Create a list of emergency telephone numbers, including those of your employees, neighbors, veterinarian, state veterinarian, poison control, local animal shelter, animal care and control, county extension service, local agricultural schools, trailering resources, and local volunteers. Include a contact person outside the disaster area. Make sure all this information is written down and that everyone has a copy.

Arrange for a place to shelter your animals. *Plan ahead* and work within your community to establish safe shelters for farm animals. Potential facilities include fairgrounds, other farms, racetracks, humane societies, convention centers, and any other safe and appropriate facilities you can find. Survey your community and potential host communities along your planned evacuation route.

Contact your local emergency management authority *and become familiar with at least two possible evacuation routes well in advance.*

Check in advance for hotels, motels and shelters, in a 30, 60, 90 mile radius, that take pets and what their requirements are. Many require pre-registration of some sort. Check the following websites *before* an evacuation to make your plans in advance:

Visit hotel Internet search sites like www.hotels.com or www.travelocity.com (click "pets allowed" in the search criteria)

www.petfriendlytravel.com/pet_shelters

www.aspcapro.org/pet-friendly-evacuation-sheltering.php

<http://www.emergencysuppliesblog.com/pet-emergency-supplies/186-pet-friendly-hotels-for-emergency-evacuation/>

www.takeyourpet.com

www.petswelcome.com

www.LetsGoPets.com

www.petfriendlyhotels.com

www.petfriendlytravel.com

www.1clickpethotels.com

www.travelpets.com

www.dogfriendly.com

www.OfficialPetHotels.com

www.petscanstay.com/

www.choicehotels.com/en/pet-friendly-hotels

www.dogfriendly.com/server/travel/guides/us/storm.shtml

The American Automobile Association (AAA) publishes "**Traveling With Your Pet: The AAA Pet Book**". It lists, by state and city, 13,000 locations that will accommodate pets in an emergency. The PetBook is available in many AAA club offices, at better bookstores or online at Barnes and Noble.

Find local animal shelters (<http://www.petfinder.com/shelters.html>) prepared to provide emergency shelter for displaced pets. Government run shelters will be listed in the blue pages of the phone book, and non-profit animal shelters in the yellow pages.

Have a list of local PET SHELTERS

Remember AMERICAN RED CROSS Shelters DO NOT allow animals!

Know your areas POST-DISASTER ANIMAL COLLECTION SITES in case you are separated from your pet.

Talk to your veterinarian about boarding facilities. Do they have a plan?

Coordinate with your local Humane Society ahead of time.

Your pets' **vaccinations should be current and documentation available.**

Talk with your family or friends; are they a resource?

Do you have current photographs of you and your pets together?

Do your pets have identification collars, tags, tattoos, chips?

Do you have a properly sized **pet carrier for each animal**? Carriers should be large enough for the animal to stand and turn around comfortably.

Work with your pet so the first time they go into the carrier is NOT during an emergency.

Make sure every animal has durable and visible identification.

Ensure that **poultry have access to high areas in which to perch**, if they are in a flood-prone area, as well as to food and clean water.

Reinforce your house, barn, and outbuildings with hurricane straps and other measures. *Perform regular safety checks on all utilities, buildings, and facilities on your farm/ranch.*

Use only native and deep-rooted plants and trees in landscaping (nonnative plants are less durable and hardy in your climate and may become dislodged by high winds or broken by ice and snow).

Remove all barbed wire, and *consider rerouting permanent fencing so that animals may move to high ground in a flood and to low-lying areas in high-wind events.*



Install a hand pump and obtain enough large containers to water your animals for at least a week (municipal water supplies and wells are often contaminated during a disaster).



Identify alternate water and power sources. A generator with a safely stored supply of fuel may be essential, especially if you have electrical equipment necessary to the well-being of your animals.

Secure or remove anything that could become blowing debris; make a habit of securing trailers, propane tanks, and other large objects. If you have boats, feed troughs, or other large containers, fill them with water before any high-wind event. This prevents them from blowing around and also gives you an additional supply of water.

If you use heat lamps or other electrical machinery, **make sure the wiring is safe and that any heat source is clear of flammable debris.**

Label hazardous materials and place them all in the same safe area. Provide local fire and rescue and emergency management authorities with information about the location of any hazardous materials on your property.

Remove old buried trash—a potential source of hazardous materials during flooding that may leech into crops, feed supplies, water sources, and pasture.

If evacuation is not possible, a decision must be made whether to confine large animals to an available shelter on your farm or leave them out in pastures. *Owners may believe that their animals are safer inside barns, but in many circumstances, confinement takes away the animals' ability to protect themselves.* This decision should be based on the type of disaster and the soundness and location of the sheltering building.

Survey your property for the best location for animal sheltering. If your pasture area meets the following criteria, your large animals may be better off out in the pasture than being evacuated:

- No exotic (nonnative) trees, which uproot easily
- No overhead power lines or poles
- No debris or sources of blowing debris
- No barbed-wire fencing (woven-wire fencing is best)
- Not less than one acre in size (if less than an acre, your livestock may not be able to avoid blowing debris).

If your pasture area does not meet these criteria, you should evacuate. Whether you evacuate or shelter in place, make sure that you have adequate and safe fencing or pens to separate and group animals appropriately.

Work with your state department of agriculture and county extension service. If your animals cannot be evacuated, these agencies may be able to provide on-farm oversight. Contact them well in advance to learn their capabilities and the most effective communication procedure.

Evacuate animals as soon as possible. Be ready to leave once the evacuation is ordered.

In a slowly evolving disaster, such as a hurricane, leave no later than 72 hours before anticipated landfall, especially if you will be hauling a high-profile trailer such as a horse trailer. *Remember: Even a fire truck fully loaded with water is considered "out of service" in winds exceeding 40 mph. If there are already high winds, it may not be possible to evacuate safely.*

Set up safe transportation. Trucks, trailers, and other vehicles suitable for transporting livestock (appropriate for transporting each specific type of animal) should be available, along with experienced handlers and drivers.

Take all your disaster supplies with you or make sure they will be available at your evacuation site. You should have or be able to readily obtain feed, water, veterinary supplies, handling equipment, tools, and generators if necessary.

If your animals are sheltered off your property, make sure that they remain in the groupings they are used to. Also, be sure they are securely contained and sheltered from the elements if necessary, whether in cages, fenced-in areas, or buildings.

Review and update your disaster plan, supplies, and information regularly.



GENERAL FARM DISASTER KIT

- Make a disaster kit so you have supplies on hand in the event of a disaster. Place the kit in a central location and let everyone know where it is.
- Check the contents regularly to ensure fresh and complete supplies. Include the following items, then add items that you use every day:
- Current list of all animals, including their location and records of feeding, vaccinations, and tests. Make this information available at various locations on the farm. Make sure that you have proof of ownership for all animals.
- Supplies for temporary identification of your animals, such as plastic neckbands and permanent markers to label your animals with your name, address, and telephone number.
- Basic first aid kit.
- Handling equipment such as halters, cages, and appropriate tools for each kind of animal.
- Water, feed, and buckets.
- Tools and supplies needed for sanitation.
- Disaster equipment such as a cell phone, flashlights, portable radios, and batteries.
- Other safety and emergency items for your vehicles and trailers.
- Food, water, and disaster supplies for your family.



GENERAL PET DISASTER SUPPLY KIT

- Proper identification
- Immunization and medical records
- County license rabies tag
- Food and water (2 wks. supply)
- Food/water bowls
- A carrier or portable kennel
- Medications
- Muzzle, collar and leash
- Manual can opener
- Current photo of pet
- Feeding and water bowls
- Favorite toys and blanket
- Cat litter/pan and scoop
- Grooming items
- Plastic bags to handle waste
- Disinfectant

Detailed Information from AVMA www.avma.org



Do Not Wait Until It Is Too Late

Countless times people have been told to leave their homes for a “short time,” only to find that they cannot return for days or weeks. Even disasters like gas leaks and minor flooding can keep you from tending to your animals for extended periods of time. To prevent situations such as these take your animals with you.

It is best to be overly cautious during a disaster warning. Preparing ahead of time and acting quickly is the best way to keep you and your family, including your animals, out of danger.

- Familiarize yourself with each type of disaster that could affect your area, not forgetting a

- hazardous materials spill.
- Be prepared for the possible disruption of services for extended periods of time, including electric, phone, and local food and water sources.
- Having a plan in place and practicing the plan prior to a disaster will help you accomplish a successful evacuation and maintain the safety of your animals.



Preparing a Disaster Plan

- Setup an appointment to talk to your veterinarian about disaster planning.
- Assemble an animal evacuation kit.
- Develop an evacuation plan for all of your animals and practice the plan.
- If you live in an apartment, make sure your animals are on record with management and are able to evacuate via the stairwell. Dogs should be taught to go up and down stairs to better assist rescue personnel.
- Keep written directions to your home near your telephone. This will help you and others explain to emergency responders exactly how to get to your home.
- Identify alternate sources of food and water.
- Have well maintained backup generators for use in food-animal production operations.
- Keep all vehicles well maintained and full of gas.
- Keep emergency cash on hand.
- If you have horses or livestock, good barn and field maintenance can reduce danger. Decide on the safest housing location if evacuation is impossible, realizing that the situation is still life threatening. Assess the stability and safety of barns and other structures, promptly remove dead trees, and minimize debris in the fields and immediate environment.



In Case You Are Not At Home

- Preplace stickers on front and back house doors, barn doors, and pasture entrances to notify neighbors, fire fighters, police, and other rescue personnel that animals are on your property and where to find your evacuation supplies.
- Provide a list near your evacuation supplies of the number, type, and location of your animals, noting favorite hiding spots, in order to save precious rescue time.
- To facilitate a successful rescue, provide muzzles, handling gloves, catch nets, and animal restraints where rescue personnel can find them. Keep in mind that animals may become unpredictable when frightened.

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- Designate a willing neighbor to tend to your animals in the event that a disaster occurs when you are not at home. This person should have a key to your home, be familiar with your animals, know your evacuation procedures, and know where your evacuation supplies are kept.
- In your evacuation kit, keep a pre-signed letter that releases your neighbor from responsibility if one of your animals becomes injured during the evacuation.
- You may also want to have a pre-signed veterinary medical treatment authorization with your Evacuation Kit – this will aid your veterinarian if your animal must be treated during your absence.
- Having identification on your animals, including rabies and license tags, if applicable, may help reunite you with your animal(s) in the event that you are separated. Identification should provide your name, home address, a phone number where you can be reached, and an out-of-state phone number of someone with whom you will be in contact during or soon after the disaster/evacuation. If possible, include your veterinarian's name, location, and phone number.

Examples of some forms of identification are listed below.



Small Animal

- collar tag (*a piece of tape applied to the back of the collar tag can provide evacuation site information – use waterproof ink*)
- microchip
- tattoo
- temporary neckband
- waterproof pouch attached to collar with identification information inside
- many reptiles may be marked with a permanent felt-tipped marker
- clear identification on cage/housing for confined animals



Equine

- microchip
- tattoo
- halter tag
- neck collars
- leg band

- brand
- mane clip
- luggage tag braided into tail or mane
- clipper-shaved information in the animals' hair
- livestock marking crayon, non-toxic, non-water-soluble spray paint, or non-water-soluble markers to write on the animals' side
- permanent marker to mark hooves



Livestock

- neck chain
- ear notches
- leg band
- ear tag
- brand
- livestock marking crayon, non-toxic, non-water-soluble spray paint, or markers to write on the animals' side
- wattle notching
- ear tattoo
- back or tail tag

It is important to separate animals from different households as much as possible and to maintain the best possible hygiene to decrease disease transmission.



Small Animal:

- Leash, collar, and/or harness for each pet.
- Collapsible cage or airline approved carrier should also be available for each pet, and bedded properly, for transportation and housing purposes - owning enough carriers to accommodate your pets facilitates a speedy evacuation and may mean the difference between the life or death of your pet.
- Familiarize your animals with evacuation procedures and cages/carriers. Take the cage/carrier out several times a year and put dog or cat treats inside with blankets and toys. By doing this, you hope to reinforce positive feelings associated with the animal carrier.
- Cat carriers should be large enough to hold a small litter pan and two small dishes and still allow your cat enough room to lie down comfortably or stand to use the litter pan.
- Dog kennels or collapsible cages should be large enough to hold two no-spill bowls and still allow enough room for your dog to stand and turn around.
- For added assurance, clearly label each carrier with your identification and contact information.
- Locate and prearrange an evacuation site for your family and animals outside your immediate area. Ideally, this will be a friend/relative or a pet-friendly hotel that is willing to let your family and animals

stay in the event of a disaster. Other possible animal housing options include veterinary hospitals, boarding kennels, and animal shelters.



Equine/Livestock: Equine/livestock evacuation can be challenging:

- Develop an evacuation plan and make sure that animals are familiar with being loaded onto a trailer.
- Premises with facilities that are specifically designed to load and handle livestock will be much more successful in evacuating and relocating livestock.
- Locate and prearrange an evacuation site for your animals outside your immediate area.

Possible sites include:

- veterinary or land grant colleges
- racetracks
- show grounds
- pastures
- stables
- fairgrounds
- equestrian centers
- livestock corrals
- stockyards or auction facilities
- other boarding facilities
- If you do not have enough trailers to transport all of your animals to an evacuation site quickly, contact neighbors, local haulers, farmers, producers, or other transportation providers to establish a network of available and reliable resources that will provide transportation in the event of a disaster.

Make photocopies of important veterinary documents to store in the evacuation kit.

Vaccination records

- Vaccination type and date
- Rabies certificate, if applicable

Medical history

- Important test results, such as Feline Leukemia/Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (*FelV/FIV*), heartworm, equine infectious anemia (*Coggins test*), tuberculosis, and brucellosis
- Medical conditions and medications (*including drug name, dosage, and frequency of dosing*)
- If your animal has a microchip, a record of the microchip number
- For cattle: If an individual animal is or has been medically treated *and* is still under a withdrawal period, a treatment record *must* be maintained. The record must include animal's ID or group ID, date

of treatment/s, the drug used and the drug manufacturer's serial or lot number, dosage of drug administered, route and location of administration, and the person administering the drug.

The earliest date the animal could clear the withdrawal period for the administered drug should also be listed.



Proof of Ownership

Make copies of registration information, adoption papers, proof of purchase, and microchip information to store in the evacuation kit. List each one of your animals and their species, breed, age, sex, color, and distinguishing characteristics.

Keep current photographs of your animals in the evacuation kit for identification purposes. Include yourself in some of the photos to help you reclaim your lost animal(s). Consider preparing waterproof "Lost Pet" signs with your animal's photo attached, your name, and your contact information to use in case your animal is lost. If your pet has a microchip, call the company to register your pet's information and make sure to keep that information updated.

List of Important Emergency Contacts

Prepare this list now before a disaster strikes. Include addresses and 24-hour contact numbers, if available. These contacts can be used by rescue personnel responding to a disaster affecting your animals or by you during a disaster or an evacuation. Keep one copy near your telephone and one copy in your animal evacuation kit.

- Numbers where you may be reached (*pager, cell phone, work phone*)
- Your prearranged evacuation site
- Local contact person in case of emergency when you are not available
- Out-of-state contact person
- Your veterinarian's name, clinic name, and phone numbers
- Alternate veterinarian (*30-90 miles away, provides boarding*)
- Boarding facility (*local*)
- Boarding facility (*30-90 miles away*)
- Hotels that allow pets (*90 mile radius*)
- Local Animal Control
- Local Police Department
- Local Fire Department
- Local Public Health Department
- Local animal shelter
- Local Red Cross chapter
- Local humane society
- Local Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (*SPCA*)
- List of internet "lost and found" animal Sites

Additional contacts for equine/livestock owners:

- State veterinarian
- State veterinary colleges or land grant colleges of agriculture
- Private stables/farms
- County Extension office; this is especially important for livestock owners
- Brand inspector, if applicable • Applicable state and county livestock associations
- Racetracks
- Fairgrounds
- Show grounds
- Stockyards
- Equestrian centers
- Local haulers or neighbors to help with transportation
- Feed distributor
- American Association of Equine Practitioners (http://aaep.org/emergency_prep.htm)
- American Association of Bovine Practitioners (<http://www.aabp.org/>)
- American Association of Small Ruminant Practitioners (<http://www.aasrp.org/>)
- American Association of Swine Veterinarians (<http://www.aasp.org/>)
- US DA-APHIS Veterinarian-in-Charge (<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nvap/vsoffice.html>)
- USDA-APHIS Area Emergency Coordinator

Small Animal Evacuation Kit

The following lists will help you prepare for your animal(s) in the event of a disaster. The evacuation kit should be assembled in easy-to-carry, waterproof containers. It should be stored in an easily accessible location away from areas with temperature extremes. Replace the food, water, and medications as often as needed to maintain their quality and freshness and in accordance with the expiration dates. Indicate, if applicable, medications that are stored elsewhere due to temperature requirements such as refrigeration.

Consult your veterinarian for advice on making an animal evacuation kit and first aid kit that is appropriate for your individual animals. It is important that you become familiar with the items in your kit and their uses. Your veterinarian may recommend an animal first aid book to include in your kit. Consult your veterinarian regarding emergency first aid procedures and administration of any medications.

- 2 -week supply of food (*dry & canned*)
- 2 -week supply of water in plastic gallon jugs with secure lids
- Batteries (*flashlight, radio*)
- Cage/carrier (*one for each animal, labeled with your contact information*)
- Can opener (*manual*)
- Cat/wildlife gloves
- Copies of veterinary records and proof of ownership
- Emergency contact list
- Familiar items to make pets feel comfortable (*favorite toys, treats, blankets*)
- First aid kit (*see next page*)
- Flashlight
- Instructions
- Diet: record the diet for each individual animal, including what not to feed in case of allergies.
- Medications: list each animal separately, including dose and frequency for each medication. Provide veterinary and pharmacy contact information for refills.
- Leash and collar or harness (*for each animal*)
- Litter, litter pan, litter scoop
- Maps of local area and alternate evacuation routes (*in case of road closures*)
- Muzzles (*dog or cat*)

- Newspaper (*bedding, litter*)
- No-spill food and water dishes
- Paper towels
- Radio (*solar and battery operated*)
- Spoon (*for canned food*)
- Stakes and tie-outs
- Trash bags

Small Animal First Aid Kit

Consult your veterinarian when developing the first aid kit. The items below serve only as examples of what may be included in a small animal first aid kit.

- Activated charcoal (*liquid*)
- Anti-diarrheal liquid or tablets
- Antibiotic ointment (*for wounds*)
- Antibiotic eye ointment
- Bandage scissors
- Bandage tape
- Betadine® (*povidone-iodine*) or Nolvasan® (*chlorhexidine*), scrub and solution
- Cotton bandage rolls
- Cotton-tipped swabs
- Elastic bandage rolls
- Eye rinse (*sterile*)
- Flea and tick prevention and treatment
- Gauze pads and rolls
- Ice cream sticks (*which may be used as splints*)
- Isopropyl alcohol/alcohol prep pads
- Latex gloves or non-allergenic gloves
- Liquid dish detergent (*mild wound and body cleanser*)
- Measuring spoons
- Medications and preventatives (*such as heartworm prevention*), minimum 2-week supply, with clearly labeled instructions. Provide veterinary and pharmacy contact information for refills.
- Non-adherent bandage pads
- Saline solution (*for rinsing wounds*)
- Sterile lubricant (*water based*)
- Styptic powder (*clotting agent*)
- Syringe or eyedropper
- Thermometer (*digital*)
- Tourniquet
- Towel and washcloth
- Tweezers

Livestock Evacuation Kit

- 7 -10 day supply of feed and water
- Batteries (*flashlight, radio*)
- Copies of veterinary records and proof of ownership
- Cotton halter
- Duct tape
- Emergency contact list
- Flashlight

- Heavy gloves (*leather*)
- Instructions
- Diet: record the diet for your animals.
- Medications: record the dose and frequency for each medication. Provide veterinary and pharmacy contact information for refills.
- Knife (*sharp, all-purpose*)
- Maps of local area and alternate evacuation routes (*in case of road closures*)
- Nose leads
- Plastic trash cans with lids (*can be used to store water*)
- Portable livestock panels
- Radio (*solar and battery operated*)
- Rope or lariat
- Shovel
- Water buckets
- Whip, prods
- Wire cutters

Equine Evacuation Kit

- 7 -10 day supply of feed, supplements, and water
- Bandannas (*to use as blindfolds*)
- Batteries (*flashlight, radio*)
- Blankets
- Copies of veterinary records and proof of ownership
- Duct tape
- Emergency contact list
- First aid kit
- Flashlight
- Fly spray
- Grooming brushes
- Heavy gloves (*leather*)
- Hoof knife
- Hoof nippers
- Hoof pick
- Hoof rasp
- Instructions
- Diet: record the diet for your animals. • Medications: record the dose and frequency for each medication. Provide veterinary and pharmacy contact information for refills.
- Knife (*sharp, all-purpose*)
- Leg wraps and leg quilts
- Maps of local area and alternate evacuation routes (*in case of road closures*)
- Non-nylon halters and leads (*leather/cotton*)
- Paper towels
- Plastic trash cans with lids (*can be used to store water*)
- Radio (*solar and battery operated*)
- Rope or lariat
- Shovel
- Tarpaulins
- Trash bags
- Twitch
- Water buckets
- Wire cutters

Equine First Aid Kit

Consult your veterinarian when developing the first aid kit. The items below serve only as examples of what may be included in an equine first aid kit.

- Antibiotic ointment (*for wounds*)
- Antibiotic eye ointment
- Bandage scissors
- Bandage tape
- Betadine® (*povidone-iodine*) or Nolvasan® (*chlorhexidine*), scrub and solution
- Cotton bandage rolls
- Cotton-tipped swabs
- Elastic bandage rolls
- Eye rinse (*sterile*)
- Gauze pads and rolls
- Isopropyl alcohol/alcohol prep pads
- Latex gloves or non-allergenic gloves
- Medications (*minimum 2 week supply, with clearly labeled instructions*)
- Non-adherent bandage pads
- Saline solution (*for rinsing wounds*)
- Sterile lubricant (*water-based*)
- Thermometer (*digital*)
- Tincture of green soap
- Tourniquet
- Towel and washcloth
- Tweezers

Evacuating Other Types of Pets

Identification, medical records, and proof of ownership are equally as important for other kinds of pets as for the aforementioned animals. Transportation of these species may require additional attention and care in order to decrease chances of stress-induced illness and death. It is important to keep pets from different sources as separate as possible and maintain the best possible hygiene in order to decrease disease transmission.



Birds

- Transportation of pet birds is best accomplished using small, secure, covered carriers to avoid injury.
- If traveling in cold weather, always warm the interior of your vehicle before moving your bird(s) from the house to the vehicle.
- Transfer your bird(s) to a standard cage upon arrival at the evacuation site; covering the cage may reduce stress; this transfer should occur in a small, enclosed room to reduce the risk of escape.
- Birds should be kept in quiet areas and not allowed out of the cage in unfamiliar surroundings. Fresh food and water should be provided daily.
- If your bird appears ill, be sure to lower the cage perch, food dish, and water bowl and consult a veterinarian as soon as possible.
- In addition to the pertinent items listed under small animal evacuation kit, include:
 - necessary dietary supplements

- plant mister for cooling birds in hot weather
- hot water bottle for warming birds in cold weather
- materials to line the bottom of the cage
- cage perch
- toys



Reptiles

- Transportation of small reptiles can be accomplished using a pillowcase, cloth sack, or small transport carrier.
- If possible, promote defecation before transporting the animal (*for example allow tortoises, lizards, or snakes to soak in a shallow water bath before bagging or caging*).
- Transfer your pet to a secure cage at the evacuation site as soon as possible and if appropriate.
- In addition to the pertinent items listed under small animal evacuation kit, include:
 - essential dietary supplements
 - water bowl for soaking
 - spray bottle for misting
 - extra bags or newspapers
 - heating pad
 - battery-operated heating source or other appropriate heat source
 - extra batteries
 - appropriate handling gloves/supplies
 - Since most reptiles do not eat daily, feeding during evacuation circumstances may increase stress. Determine if feeding is in the animal's best interest, especially if the container may become fouled.
 - Housing at the evacuation facility should be consistent with that required by the reptile. The enclosure should, if possible, be placed in a controlled environment, away from areas of heavy traffic, loud noises, and vibrations.
 - Make sure that the container housing the reptile is escape proof. Nonetheless, plan for escapes.



Amphibians

- Transportation of amphibians can be accomplished by using watertight plastic bags, such as the ones used for pet fish transport, or plastic containers, such as plastic shoeboxes or plastic food containers with snap-on lids.
- It is best to place only one species or if possible only one animal per container.
- Small ventilation holes should be placed in the upper wall or plastic lid. Smooth the inner surface of the holes with a file or sandpaper to prevent injury to the animal.

Prepping for Animals, Pets and Livestock - Continued

- For terrestrial or semi aquatic amphibians use a tiny amount of water, or moistened paper towels, clean foam rubber, or moss as a suitable substrate.
- For aquatic species, fill the plastic bag one third full of water, then inflate the bag with fresh air and close with a knot or rubber band. It is best to use clean water from the animal's enclosure to minimize physiologic stress.
- Care must be taken to monitor water and air temperature, humidity, lighting, and nutrition during the time that the animal will be in the evacuation facility.
- Housing at the evacuation facility should be consistent with that required by the amphibian.
- The enclosure should, if possible, be placed in a controlled environment, away from areas of heavy traffic, loud noises, and vibrations.
- Make sure that the container housing the amphibian is escape proof. Nonetheless, plan for escapes.
- Take an extra container of water, clean moist paper towels or clean moss as is appropriate in case any of your pet's containers break or leak.
- Feeding during evacuation circumstances may increase stress so it may not be in the animal's best interests to supply food, especially if the water may become fouled.



Other Small Animals

- Transportation of most small mammals (*ferrets, hamsters, gerbils, rats, mice, guinea pigs, etc.*) is best accomplished using a secure, covered carrier or cage to reduce stress.
- In addition to the pertinent items listed under small animal evacuation kit, include:
 - necessary dietary supplements
 - extra bedding materials
 - appropriate exercise equipment

An evacuation order has been issued now what do you do?

Evacuate your family, including your animals, as early as possible. By leaving early, you will decrease the chance of becoming victims of the disaster.

- Bring your dogs, cats, and other small animals indoors.
- Make sure all animals have some form of identification securely fastened to them (*or their cage, in the case of smaller, caged pets*). The utilization of permanent identification is encouraged.
- Place all small pets, including cats and small dogs, inside individual transportable carriers. When stressed, animals that normally get along may become aggressive towards each other.
- Secure leashes on all large dogs.
- Load your larger animal cages/carriers into your vehicle. These will serve as temporary housing for your animals if needed.
- Load the animal evacuation kit and supplies into your vehicle.
- Call your prearranged animal evacuation site to confirm availability of space.

- Implement your equine/livestock evacuation plan. • If evacuation of horses/livestock is impossible, relocate them to the safest place possible based on the type of imminent disaster and your environment, realizing that the situation could be life threatening.
- Make sure that they have access to hay or an appropriate and safe free-choice food source, clean water, and the safest living area possible including high ground above flood levels.
- Do not rely on automatic watering systems, because power may be lost.
- The decision to leave your horses/livestock in the field or in the barn should be based on the risks of injury resulting from the disaster as well as from the horse's/livestock's immediate environment during that disaster.
- Factors to consider include the stability of the barn, the risk of flooding, and the amount of trees and debris in the fields.
- If time permits, secure or remove all outdoor objects that may turn into dangerous flying debris.

After the disaster

- Survey the area inside and outside your home to identify sharp objects, dangerous materials, dangerous wildlife, contaminated water, downed power lines, or other hazards.
- Examine your animals closely, and contact your veterinarian immediately if you observe injuries or signs of illness.
- Familiar scents and landmarks may have changed, and this can confuse your animals.
- Release equine/livestock in safe and enclosed areas only. Initial release should take place during daylight hours, when the animals can be closely observed.
- Release cats, dogs, and other small animals indoors only. They could encounter dangerous wildlife and debris if they are allowed outside unsupervised and unrestrained.
- Release birds and reptiles only if necessary and only when they are calm and in an enclosed room.
- Reintroduce food in small servings, gradually working up to full portions if animals have been without food for a prolonged period of time.
- Allow uninterrupted rest/sleep for all animals to recover from the trauma and stress.
- If your animals are lost, physically check animal control and animal shelters DAILY for lost animals.
- Post waterproof lost animal notices and notify local law enforcement, animal care and control officials, veterinarians, and your neighbors of any lost animals (*utilize online resources for lost and found animals*).

AVMA

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800-248-2862, ext. 6632
www.avma.org/disaster

To contribute to the AVMF Animal Disaster Relief and Response Fund, please mail your check to:

AVMF Animal Disaster Relief and Response Fund

Department 20-1122
P.O. Box 5940
Carol Stream, IL 60197-5940
Or call: 800-285-2862, ext. 6689
www.avmf.org

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- The American Association of Equine Practitioners http://aaep.org/emergency_prep.htm
- The American Association of Bovine Practitioners www.aabp.org
- The Association of Reptilian & Amphibian Veterinarians www.arav.org
- Association of Avian Veterinarians www.aav.org
- American Association of Avian Pathologists www.aaap.info



Recap

Make a Plan for what you will do in an emergency.

Plan in advance what you will do in an emergency. Be prepared to assess the situation. Use common sense and whatever you have on hand to take care of yourself and ensure your pet's safety during an emergency.

Evacuate. Plan how you will assemble your pets and anticipate where you will go. If you must evacuate, take your pets with you, if practical. If you go to a public shelter, keep in mind your pets may not be allowed inside. Secure appropriate lodging in advance depending on the number and type of animals in your care. Consider family or friends outside your immediate area who would be willing to take in you and your pets in an emergency. Other options may include: a hotel or motel that takes pets or some sort of boarding facility, such as a kennel or veterinary hospital that is near an evacuation facility or your family's meeting place. Find out before an emergency happens if any of these facilities in your area might be viable options for you and your pets.

Develop a buddy system. Plan with neighbors, friends or relatives to make sure that someone is available to care for or evacuate your pets if you are unable to do so. Talk with your pet care buddy about your evacuation plans and show them where you keep your pet's emergency supply kit. Also designate specific locations, one in your immediate neighborhood and other farther away, where you will meet in an emergency.

Talk to your pet's veterinarian about emergency planning. Discuss the types of things you should include in your pet's emergency first aid kit. Get the names of vets or veterinary hospitals in other cities where you might need to seek temporary shelter. Also talk with your veterinarian about microchipping. If you and your pet are separated, this permanent implant for your pet and corresponding enrollment in a recovery database can help a veterinarian or shelter identify your animal. If your pet is microchipped, keeping your emergency contact information up to date and listed with a reliable recovery database is essential to you and your pet being reunited.

Gather contact information for emergency animal treatment. Make a list of contact information and addresses of area animal control agencies including the Humane Society or ASPCA and emergency veterinary hospitals. Keep one copy of these phone numbers with you, and one in your pet's emergency supply kit. Obtain "Pets Inside" stickers and place them on your doors or windows, including information on the number and types of pets in your home to alert firefighters and rescue workers. Consider putting a phone number on the sticker where you could be reached in an emergency. And, if

time permits, remember to write the words “Evacuated with Pets” across the stickers, should you evacuate your home with your pets.

Get a Kit of pet emergency supplies.

Just as you do with your family’s emergency supply kit, think first about the basics for survival, particularly food and water.

- **Food:** Keep at least three days of food in an airtight, waterproof container.
- **Water:** Store at least three days of water specifically for your pets, in addition to water you need for yourself and your family.
- **Medicines and medical records:** Keep an extra supply of medicines your pet takes on a regular basis in a waterproof container.
- **First aid kit:** Talk to your veterinarian about what is most appropriate for your pet’s emergency medical needs. Most kits should include cotton bandage rolls, bandage tape and scissors; antibiotic ointment; flea and tick prevention; latex gloves, isopropyl alcohol and saline solution. Include a pet first aid reference book.
- **Collar with ID tag, harness or leash:** Your pet should wear a collar with its rabies tag and identification at all times. Include a backup leash, collar and ID tag in your pet’s emergency supply kit.
- **Important documents:** Place copies of your pet’s registration information, adoption papers, vaccination documents and medical records in a clean plastic bag or waterproof container and also add them to your kit.
- **Crate or other pet carrier:** If you need to evacuate in an emergency situation take your pets and animals with you, provided that it is practical to do so.
- **Sanitation:** Include pet litter and litter box if appropriate, newspapers, paper towels, plastic trash bags and household chlorine bleach to provide for your pet’s sanitation needs. You can use bleach as a disinfectant (dilute nine parts water to one part bleach), or in an emergency you can also use it to purify water. Use 8 drops of regular household liquid bleach per gallon of water, stir well and let it stand for 30 minutes before use. Do not use scented or color safe bleaches or those with added cleaners.
- **A picture of you and your pet together:** If you become separated from your pet during an emergency, a picture of you and your pet together will help you document ownership and allow others to assist you in identifying your pet. Include detailed information about species, breed, age, sex, color and distinguishing characteristics.
- **Familiar items:** Put favorite toys, treats or bedding in your kit. Familiar items can help reduce stress for your pet.

Consider two kits. In one, put everything your pets will need to stay where you are and make it on your own. The other should be a lightweight, smaller version you can take with you if you and your pets have to get away.

Be Prepared for what might happen.

Some of the things you can do to prepare for the unexpected, such as assembling an emergency supply kit for yourself, your family and your pets, is the same regardless of the type of emergency. However, it’s important to say informed about what might happen and know what types of emergencies are likely to affect your region.

Be prepared to adapt this information to your personal circumstances and make every effort to follow instructions received from authorities on the scene. With these simple preparations, you can be ready for the unexpected. Those who take the time to prepare themselves and their pets will likely encounter less difficulty, stress and worry. Take the time now to get yourself and your pet ready.

Resources:

Disaster Preparedness Kit Checklist www.petfinder.com/disaster/preparednesschecklist.html

Animal First Aid Kit www.petfinder.com/disaster/firstaid.html

Animal Disaster Preparedness Plan www.petfinder.com/disaster

AVMA www.avma.org

Humane Society USA: <http://www.hsus.org/>

American Society for the Cruelty to Animals: <http://www.aspca.org/site/PageServer>

Shortcut to: FEMA WEB site: http://www.fema.gov/preparedness/animals_and_disasters.shtm

American kennel Club: http://www.akc.org/enewsletter/taking_command/2005/november/prepare.cfm

Noah's Wish: <http://www.noahswish.org/>

Best Friends: <http://bestfriends.org/>

"Animals in Disaster" is offered by DEMA as a module in Community Emergency Response Training. For information about attending this course or this module visit: <http://www.state.de.us/dema/default.shtml>. Click on **Citizen Corps** then **CERT**. Although specific to Delaware, it has some great information.

Keep On Preppin'

TNT

A 50 Something, homesteading, Prepper ;-}

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