

# Emergency Kit



**American Red Cross**

# Visual Checklist

**We know you love your pets...**and they depend on us for their safety during disasters. You can prepare by gathering the items listed below... especially food, meds, and identification so your entire family is prepared.

## For Pets



**Help us help you!** Service animals are allowed in human shelters. Your plans should include provisions for your service animal and/or the possibility of co-sheltering in the case of therapy, emotional support & household pets.

 <p>Water (1 gal+/da; 3-7 days) + a bottle of a sports drink.</p>	 <p>A supply of pet food &amp; treats (2 weeks). Rotate as needed.</p>	 <p>Litter pan (disposable) &amp; crate/litter liners (newspapers?)</p>	 <p>Molded plastic carrier (w/pet name &amp; your contact info)</p>	 <p>Extra leash &amp; collars (&amp; up to date tags)</p>
 <p>Supply of meds &amp; extra prescriptions</p>	 <p>Pet 1<sup>st</sup> Aid Kit &amp; first aid book</p>	 <p>Cat Litter &amp; scoop</p>	 <p>Paper towels</p>	 <p>Disposable bags (14) &amp; a 50 ft. rope</p>
 <p>Pet odor neutralizer; Herbal rescue remedy</p>	 <p>Blankets, sheets, and towels</p>	 <p>Trash bags, can opener, carabiners</p>	 <p>Duct tape &amp; snake flashlight</p>	 <p>Disinfectant &amp; liquid dish soap</p>
 <p>3 or 5 gal. bucket w/ lid</p>	 <p>Grooming supplies</p>	 <p>Food &amp; Water bowls</p>	 <p>Disposable gloves + a pair of heavy duty gloves</p>	 <p>Vaccination records &amp; medical info</p>
 <p>Favorite toys + tennis balls &amp; chew stick</p>	 <p>Pillowcase (Cat restraint/treatment + head cover for all pets)</p>	 <p>Photo of you w/ your pet</p>	 <p>Photo of pet + schedule/description + behavior needs</p>	 <p>Soiled t-shirt in a sealed plastic bag (your scent will help with pet anxiety)</p>

**If you evacuate, take your pets with you!**

**BE RED CROSS READY-** It's important to prepare for possible disasters and other emergencies. Natural and human-caused disasters can strike suddenly, at anytime and anywhere. You may need to survive on your own after an emergency. Local officials and relief workers will be on the scene after a disaster, but they cannot reach everyone immediately. This means having your own food, water, and other supplies-3 days-3 steps. These are three steps everyone can take that can help make a difference. By taking it in steps, it won't seem so overwhelming, **BUT** please take the first step!

- **GET A KIT-**Put together two separate kits-one for humans + one for animals, from the visual checklists. Have at least three days of supplies (non-perishable food and water) in an easy-to-carry portable container(s) located near an exit of your house and keep a smaller version of the kit in your vehicle. For animals, keep an extra lead in your car.
  1. Generally, one gallon of water/ person/ day. Individual needs vary, depending on age, physical condition, activity, diet and climate. Remember to account for animals, too! Studies have shown dogs especially will not drink strange water, so add a teaspoon of a sports' drink to their water to mask the strange scent. For pet medications, ask your vet for an extra script to keep/rotate in your kit. Keep watch for signs of **smoke inhalation** in animals- coughing, wheezing, rapid breathing, red eyes, and/or vomiting (a leading cause of injury).
  2. Keep a light source in the top of your kit, so you can find it quickly in the dark. Pack extra clothing, matches, personal documents & other items in plastic zip lock bags to protect them. Personalize your kit-to meet the individual needs of each family member, including pets.
  3. Remember to check your kit and replace stock every six months. Adjust supplies for winter and summer needs. Check expiration dates on batteries, light sticks, food, and water. Raw feeders-stuff toys full of raw food and freeze them.
- **MAKE A PLAN-**Planning ahead will help you have the best possible response to disaster. **TALK-** Make sure everyone in the household knows where the emergency information/supplies are kept. Keep information up to date. Establish responsibilities for each member of your household and plan to work together as a team. Develop a buddy system with friends/neighbors and introduce your animals to them (in case you can't get home in time to evacuate them. Learn how and when to shut off utilities such as electricity, water, and gas. Remember that animals sense danger before humans, so secure them as early as possible, in case of evacuation. **PLAN-**Choose two places to meet after a disaster.
  1. Right outside your house, in case of a sudden emergency, such as a fire.
  2. Outside your neighborhood, in case you cannot return home or are asked to evacuate your neighborhood.

**PRACTICE-**evacuating your home twice a year. Drive your evacuation route and plot routes on a map in case roads are impassable or gridlocked. Include your pets, sound the smoke alarm and note where they hide. If you must evacuate, take your animals with you. If is not safe for you, it is not safe for them. Download the **ASPCA app**-what to do before, during and after an event, store health records, missing pet recovery kit, and step by step instructions on how to search + build a digital flyer for sharing on social media. Include copies of ownership papers.

- **BE INFORMED- LEARN-**what disasters/emergencies may occur where you live, work, and play. **IDENTIFY-**how local authorities will notify you during a disaster, and go to (<http://www.redcross.org/org/mobile-apps/emergency-app>) to download the emergency app for up to date information **during** emergencies.

