

If You Need to... Evacuate

If you need to evacuate (leave your home for safer ground) TAKE YOUR PET WITH YOU. Leaving pets behind, even if you try to create a safe place for them, is not the best action. If the state declares an Emergency and a "Mandatory Evacuation" they will establish Pet Friendly Shelters in your county. However the best plan is to make your own accommodations.

Contact hotels or motels outside your immediate area and ask about their policies on accepting pets during an emergency. Keep a list of "pet friendly" places in your emergency kit so you'll know where to go. If you get advance notice that you will need to evacuate, call and make a reservation at a "pet friendly" place right away! You can also ask friends or relatives outside the area if they could keep your pets in an emergency.

Prepare a list of boarding facilities and veterinarians who could shelter your animals in an emergency. Keep the list in your emergency kit.

If you have more than one pet, they may be more comfortable if they are kept together, but in an emergency that might not be possible.

If you are under a disaster warning, keep your pets inside with you so you don't have to look for them if you have to evacuate. Make sure they are wearing collars and identification tags.



Prepare a Disaster Supply Kit* For your Family



Additional emergency preparedness resources available at:
Delaware Citizen Corps
(www.prepareDE.org)
(www.delawarecitizencorps.org)
FEMA (www.fema.gov)
DEMA (www.dema.delaware.gov)

Recommendations:

- A supply of water (one gallon per person per day). Store water in sealed, unbreakable containers. Identify the storage date and replace every six months.
- A supply of non-perishable packaged or canned food and a non-electric can opener.
- A change of clothing, rain gear and sturdy shoes.
- Blankets or sleeping bags.
- A first aid kit and prescription medications.
- An extra pair of glasses.
- A battery-powered radio, flashlight and plenty of extra batteries.
- Credit cards and cash.
- An extra set of car keys.
- A list of family physicians and phone numbers
- A list of important family information; the style and serial number of medical devices such as pacemakers.
- Special items for infants, elderly or disabled family members.

* Source: DEMA web page



DISASTER PREPAREDNESS FOR PET OWNERS



Preparing the WHOLE family!

Planning ahead is the key to keeping yourself and your family safe during a disaster.



Learn more and join today!

Disaster Preparedness for Pets...

Prepare

Your pets depend on you to keep them safe in a disaster. If you evacuate, take your pets with you.



Before a disaster, plan:

Where you will go with your pets

–identify friends, family members, pet-friendly hotels or animal boarding facilities within 30 miles, 60 miles, and 90 miles from home who would house your pets if you need to evacuate

What supplies you need to shelter in place and/or evacuate...

–Personalize kits for your animals' needs
–Prepare emergency kits (see list in column three)

When should you evacuate

–Listen to news alerts and evacuate when directed
–Leave early to minimize strain on infrastructure such as roads, fuel supplies and communication systems

How you will get to your evacuation location

–map your main route and alternate routes as some roads may be impassable during a disaster
–Fuel vehicles in advance of as part of preparation plan



Prepare NOW - A Pet Care Checklist

- ✓ Prepare your Pet Emergency Supply Kit in advance so you can grab it and go quickly in the event of a disaster
- ✓ Keep your pets' shots up-to-date – *cats and dogs must have current rabies shots and should also have distemper shots to protect them against common illnesses*
- ✓ Take a picture of you and your pet together to prove ownership should you get separated
- ✓ Microchip your pet and register your information with the microchip manufacturer's pet recovery hotline
- ✓ Write down detailed information about species, breed, age, sex, color, and any special markings or characteristics that might help in identifying your pet
- ✓ Purchase a leash for each dog and a pet carrier for each cat so you can safely transport them if you need to evacuate – *carriers should be large enough for the animal to stand and turn around comfortably*

Note: The Delaware Humane Association, the Delaware SPCA, and the Kent County SPCA all offer low-cost shot clinics and low-cost microchip clinics at locations throughout Delaware. Call for dates and locations in your area.

Delaware Humane Association, Wilmington – 302.571.0111
 Delaware SPCA, Stanton – 302.998.2281
 Delaware SPCA, Georgetown – 302.856.6361
 Kent County SPCA – 302.698.3006

What to put in your Pet Emergency Supply Kit:

Food:

- Keep at least 3 days of food in an airtight, waterproof container.
- Don't forget bowls and a manual can opener.



Water:

- Store at least 3 days of water specifically for your pets, in addition to the water you need for you and your family.

Medicines and Medical Records:

- Keep an extra supply of medicines your pets take on a regular basis in a waterproof container.

Identification:

- Your pets should wear up-to-date identification at all times.
- Pack backup collars and ID tags for both cats and dogs – be sure to get breakaway collars for cats.
- Place copies of pets' registration information and medical records (especially vaccination documents), microchip ID numbers, photos of you with your pets, and complete descriptions of each animal in a zipper-seal plastic bag.

Information:

- Write down medical conditions and behavior problems, and the name and number of your veterinarian in case you have to board your pets or place them in foster care
- Put the information in your kit in a zipper-seal plastic bag or waterproof container.

Sturdy leashes, harnesses, and pet carriers:

- Have leashes, harnesses, and carriers ready to transport your pets safely
- Carriers should be large enough for your pets to stand, turn around, and lie down

Sanitation:

- Prepare pet litter and litter box
- Include additional cleaning supplies. newspapers, paper towels, plastic trash bags, and household chlorine bleach to provide for your pet's sanitation needs.



Familiar items:

- Put favorite toys, treats, and bedding in your kit; they will help reduce stress for your pet.

Preparing the WHOLE family for a disaster!