

Crisis Preparation Plan for Pets

Just as we need our animals, they need us. Here are some tips on preparing for crisis situations:

Make a plan

1. Identify a friend, neighbor, pet sitter, or family member who can care for your animals if you become ill or hospitalized or need to evacuate without them. Give them a key/access to your home.
2. Have food, extra supplies (e.g., litter, medications) and a carrier/crate on hand for quick movement. See below for items to include in your kit.
3. Make sure all animals are up-to-date on their vaccines in case boarding is needed; have copies of your rabies certificate and vaccinations.
4. Document all necessary medications including dosage and timing, and contact and prescription information from your veterinarian. If feeding is unique, document that, too. See the attached page for a form.
5. Check your animal's ID tag; is it legible and up-to-date? Does it include your phone and a backup? Get (or update!) your animal's microchip. If you adopted from HSHV, contact *24PetWatch* at 866-597-2424. If you have a different microchip, find how to contact them at petmicrochiplookup.org.

Prepare an emergency kit

Though this may mean buying twice as many things, in an emergency situation, you'll appreciate having everything together in one place, and so will your back-up caregiver. Your kit should contain:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food (2 weeks' worth, plus can opener if needed) | <input type="checkbox"/> Leash, harness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medication (2 weeks' worth) | <input type="checkbox"/> Crate or carrier |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Litter/litterbox for cats | <input type="checkbox"/> Bedding or towel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Important paperwork in a waterproof container
(include rabies and vaccination records, medication information, recent photos of your pet, plus information on the next page) | <input type="checkbox"/> Toys |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning supplies for accidents |

Practice

- Train your animals to be in carriers by putting treats inside and making it a safe, comfy place.
- Take them for short rides to get them used to the car.
- Know where your animals may hide when stressed or scared, and practice catching them (using treats, a toy, a pillowcase, barriers, gloves as needed).

Other considerations

- Where will your pet stay if you need to evacuate? In most instances, the best place is with you, so research pet-friendly hotels (see bringfido.com tripswithpets.com). But you also should ask out-of-town friends or relatives, and make a list of possible kennels. HSHV also has an Emergency Harbor program: 734-661-3552.
- When sheltering at home with your animal, choose a safe room—e.g., interior with no/few windows, no toxic chemicals or plants, and nowhere your animal could get stuck like open vents or beneath heavy furniture.
- For emergency food help during a crisis, contact HSHV's Bountiful Bowls program: 734-661-3552.
- When the crisis is over, be patient with your animals. Try to get them back into the normal routine ASAP, but prepare for some behavioral problems as they re-adjust. Call HSHV's Behavior Helpline, visit our online behavior help library (hshv.org/behavior) or consult your veterinarian if they persist.
- Do you have horses, outdoor cats, or farm animals? Make a plan for them, too: See humanesociety.org/resources/make-disaster-plan-your-pets for more.

Special thanks to the CDC and HSUS; this document was created combining information from their websites.

Boarding & Care Instructions for _____ (Animal name)

Age: _____ Weight: _____ Sex: _____
Breed, color, other identifying information: _____
Microchip #: _____

Food & Medicine

Type of food: Wet _____ Dry _____

Feeding amount and schedule: _____

Name of medication(s): _____

Dosing and administration instructions for medications: _____

How to Reach Me:

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Alternate phone numbers: _____

Email: _____

Where I'll be: _____

Other ways to reach me: _____

Alternative people to contact: _____

Medical & Behavioral Information

Veterinarian name: _____ Veterinarian phone: _____

Veterinarian address: _____

Rabies certificate #: _____ Date of last rabies vaccine: _____

Medical conditions: _____

Behavior concerns and notes: _____

