

# 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](http://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<br>(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](http://bringfido.com) [tripswithpets.com](http://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](http://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](http://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: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_