

# PREPARE FOR AN EMERGENCY Pets

### **DURING AN EMERGENCY**

- Keep your pet inside during severe weather. Animals are very sensitive to sudden changes in temperature and often isolate themselves when scared.
- Separate cats and dogs. Keep smaller pets such as hamsters away from larger animals. Stress can lead to unusual behaviour.
- Keep newspaper inside for hygiene purposes and feed your pet wet food in order to reduce the amount of water they may need.

### PET EVACUATION PLAN

The best way to protect your pet in an emergency is to bring it with you. However, many evacuation shelters will only accept service animals. Make a list of where your pet can be taken in case you need to be evacuated and there is no room at the evacuation shelter. **This list can include**:

- hotels that accept animals during an emergency;
- boarding centres and animal shelters;
- animal clinics and hospitals; and
- family members and friends.

## THE FOLLOWING STEPS WILL HELP KEEP YOUR PETS SAFE WHEN YOU NEED TO EVACUTE WITH YOUR ANIMAL(S)

- Make sure each animal wears a collar and identification tag at all times. You may become separated from your pet.
- Invest in a sturdy crate or carrier for emergency transport.
- Have a string leash or harness.
- Bring food and water for at least 72 (seventy-two)-hours, 4 (four)-litres/day per average dog, 1 (one)-litre/day per cat.
- Bring bowls and can opener for food.
- Take along newspapers, paper towels, plastic bags, litter, and or/litter box.
- Bring medical records, special medications, dosage and veterinarian's contact information.
- Bring a pet file including recent photos of the animal, your emergency numbers, contact information for friends who could house your pet, copies of any licenses and vaccination records.
- Bring a blanket and a toy.

### PETS AND SHELTER

During an extended power outage or other emergency, you may be required to take your pet to an emergency reception centre. **Pet owners should prepare to**:

- remain with their pets while they are in the shelter;
- provide a crate for each pet;
- stay in control of your leashed pet while outside of its crate; and
- care for their pets; providing food, water and waste clean-up.





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