



Disaster Planning for Cat Owners

An article by ASPCA, and modified for Evergreen Veterinary Hospital

Ready your cat

Make sure your cat is wearing ID tags with your most up-to-date contact information. Microchip your cat as a more permanent form of identification, in case collars or tags come off.

Train your cat to feel comfortable going into a crate or carrier with treats.

Always bring pets indoors at the first sign or warning of a storm, heat or cold advisory, or disaster. Pets can become disoriented and wander away from home in a crisis.

Prepare your home

Ideally, you should evacuate with your pet, but if you are unable to do so, a rescue alert sticker (which can be provided by Evergreen Veterinary Hospital) placed near your front door will let first responders know that you have pets inside your home.

If sheltering in place, consider these when choosing the safe room:

- Be aware of hazards such as windows, flying debris, etc.
- Utility rooms, bathrooms and unfinished basements may be easier to clean if your pet has an accident.
- Having a supply of fresh water is particularly important. In areas that may lose electricity, fill up bathtubs and sinks ahead of time to ensure that you have access to water during a power outage or other crisis.
- In the event of flooding, go to the highest location in your home, or a room that has access to counters or high shelves where your animals can take shelter.

Locate a Temporary Caregiver

The Evergreen team can provide a list of preferred boarding kennels and facilities, or, the local animal shelter may provide emergency shelter or foster care for pets in the event of a crisis.

Identify hotels outside of your immediate area that accept pets or ask friends and relatives if they would be willing to care after your cat.



Create an Emergency Kit

Obtain a crate or carrier that comfortably fits your cat and attach your cat's name and your contact information to it in the event you become separated from your cat.

Make a portable emergency kit that includes the following:

- Medical records and recent photos of your cat
- Bottled water and water bowls
- Pet food and medications
- Blanket or toys
- Extra collar
- Disposable litter trays, litter and litter scooper
- Dish soap and disinfectant
- Disposable garbage bags
- Flashlight

The ASPCA also suggests a pet first aid kit; visit ASPCA.org for information.