



Disaster Planning for Dog Owners

An article by ASPCA, and modified for Evergreen Veterinary Hospital

Ready your dog

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

Train your dog to feel comfortable going into a crate with regular in-crate session 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 dog.



Create an Emergency Kit

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

Make a portable emergency kit that includes the following:

- Medical records and recent photos of your dog
- Bottled water and water bowls
- Pet food and medications
- Blanket or toys
- Extra collar, harness and/or leash
- Dish soap and disinfectant
- Disposable garbage bags
- Flashlight

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