Pet Emergency Preparedness

Your Pet Emergency Preparedness should contain:

A two-week supply of food for each pet stored in airtight containers. This should be rotated at least twice a year to insure it is fresh; this also maintains that the food your pet is now eating is in their emergency kit. During a stressful situation is no time to add a change of food routine to your pet's regimen. Remember a manual can opener if you feed canned food.

A two-week supply of water for each pet (count on 1 gallon per pet per day). Do not store this in direct sunlight to prevent algae growth and do not store plastic containers directly on concrete as they will start to leach chemicals. This also should be rotated, or you can purchase a water purifier chemical.

A two-week supply of any medications taken by your animals. Remember to change out regularly so that you don't have expired medications and to update when a pet goes on a new medication.

A waterproof container or a plastic bag you could store inside a small dog or cat crate. Place inside each of the follow items;

- Each of your pet's vaccination records
- Photos of your pet with your family as proof of ownership.
- Medical and Micro-chip records
- Leash, harness and crate or carrier for each pet
- A Pet First-Aid Kit with a particulate mask and muzzle
- Pet's favorite treats, chew toys, bedding, food & water dishes
- Remember litter, scoop & box for kitties
- Cash

Affix an Emergency Alert Sticker near your front and back doors so that emergency personnel will know to look for your pets if something happens while you are not at home.

Remember to take special consideration for "exotic pets", in regards to temporary housing and their daily needs.

Compile a list of your emergency contact information for both short and long term assistance, because you don't want to imagine what happens if you can't be there for them yourself.

Information courtesy of the Emma Zen Foundation.

RILEY'S ANGELS

Riley's Angels is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that trains Therapy Dog teams to work with counselors and teachers in our local schools and to visit in hospitals and other healthcare settings. Donations made to Riley's Angels are tax deductible and support our community outreach programs and education.

www.rileysangels.org