

# Service Animals and Pets

Service animals and pets are vital members of our lives and should always be included in emergency preparedness plans to ensure their safety and well-being. Since most public shelters only allow service animals, it's important to have a plan for your pets during an emergency.

Just like people, animals need emergency kits. Consider preparing two: a larger kit for sheltering in place and a smaller, portable kit for evacuation. Here are some essential items to include:

- ☐ **Food.** Keep several days' supply of food in an airtight, waterproof container
- ☐ **Water.** Store a water bowl and several days' supply of water
- ☐ **Medicine.** Keep an extra supply of any medicine your pet needs
- ☐ **First Aid Kit.** Consider purchasing a pet-specific first aid kit. Talk to your veterinarian about what is most important for your pets' needs
- ☐ **Carrier.** Have a travel carrier or crate, ideally one for each pet
- ☐ **ID, Leash, & Collar.** Have a backup leash, collar, and ID tag in case these items are not readily available when disaster strikes
- ☐ **Grooming Supplies.** Have pet shampoo, wipes, and other items in case your pet needs cleaning up
- ☐ **Sanitation Needs.** Have litter and litter box (if needed), newspaper, paper towels, towels, trash bags, and pet-safe cleaning supplies to provide for your pets' sanitation needs
- ☐ **Familiar Items.** Have your pets favorite toys, bedding, or other comfort items in their kit. This can help reduce their stress during emergencies
- ☐ **Photo.** Have a picture of you and your pet together. In the event you get separated, this can help prove ownership and identification



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