

Disaster Preparedness for Pet Owners

**Earthquakes, floods, wildfires—disasters can strike anytime, anywhere.
Get prepared now to help keep you and your animals safe.**

If You Evacuate, Take Your Animals

Pets are not better off at home. If it isn't safe for you, it's not safe for them. Never leave your dog tied or chained outside; it could become a victim of exposure, starvation, predators, or rising water. Make sure your disaster supplies are ready to go, including your pet emergency kit. Pets should have a collar with tag and a microchip. ID will help reunite you with your pet if it becomes lost.

Find a Safe Place to Go

Some evacuation shelters will not be able to accommodate pets other than service animals. Keep a list of animal-friendly places and call for a reservation at the facility as soon as you think you might have to evacuate. Keep proof of current vaccinations and your pet's medical records in your emergency kit.

If You Don't Evacuate

If you must wait out a storm or other disaster at home, identify a safe area for you and your pets to take shelter. Stock several days' supply (72 hours minimum) of pet food, water, and medications as well as a pet first aid kit.

When You Return Home

Don't allow your pets to roam loose at first. Familiar sights and smells might be gone, which could cause your pets to become disoriented and lost. Comfort your pet. In the event of an emergency, your pet will probably be just as frightened as you. If behavior issues appear or worsen, consult with your veterinarian. Just as people can be traumatized by emergency situations, so can animals.

Get disaster preparedness and pet first aid kit checklists at oregonvma.org/disaster



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a high quality of life.*

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