The likelihood that you and your pets will survive an emergency such as a fire, flood, or earthquake is directly related to your level of emergency planning. Whether you decide to stay in place or evacuate to a safer location, you will need to make plans in advance for your pets. Keep in mind that what is best for you is also typically best for your pets.

- Make sure pets are wearing a collar at all times.
- Have cell phone number on pet’s tag.
- Consider microchipping your animal.
- Make sure vaccinations are current.
- Create a PET Disaster Kit
  - Food/water for at least 5 days
  - Bowls and can opener, if necessary
  - Medications and medical records
  - Pet First-aid kit with first-aid book
  - Animal waste disposal bags
  - Sturdy leash, harness, or carrier
  - Current photo of pet with description
  - Detailed written instructions for care
  - Vet’s phone number

If You Stay Home

- If you must stay home to wait out a storm or disaster, find a safe place in your home where you can all stay together and make it pet-friendly.
- Close off unsafe areas where frightened pets may hide.
- Move dangerous items such as tools or toxic products from the area.
- If you have a room you can designate as the “safe room”, put emergency supplies there.

If You Evacuate

- If it is not safe for you, it is not safe for your pet; take them with you when you leave.
- Evacuate early: do not wait for a mandatory evacuation order. You may be required to leave your pet behind if you wait to be evacuated by emergency officials.
- Evacuating before conditions become dangerous and stressful will help keep your pet calm and safe.