

Pets And People

Helping Your Pet Survive An Emergency

(NAPSA)—If you're like many pet parents, it's probably crossed your mind lately about what would happen to your animal if a natural disaster strikes.

The experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offer this advice: Make a plan and prepare a disaster kit for your pet. This can help make things safer for you, your pet and any first responders.

Make a Plan

1. Find out what shelters and assistance are available to accommodate pets.

2. Microchip your pets and register the microchip with the manufacturer.

3. Get a pet carrier for each of your pets and put his or her name, your name and contact information on it.

4. If you'll be sheltering at home with your pet, find an interior room with few or no windows and make sure it's pet friendly.

Make A Kit

The experts on animal care at Henry Schein Animal Health have these hints to help you create an emergency first aid kit for your pet.

- A book on animal first-aid
- Your pet's medical records
- Contact information for your veterinarian and a friend or family member familiar with your pet
- Spare leash and collar
- Food and water for at least two weeks
- Food and water bowls and a manual can opener
- Prescribed medication
- Gauze rolls and pads and adhesive tape
- Scissors
- Antiseptics
- Cotton balls
- Instant ice pack
- Saline solution
- Blanket
- Dog waste bag, paper towels, antibacterial soap, litter box and litter
- Milk of magnesia and activated charcoal
- Anti-diarrheal pills
- Flea and tick medicine
- Sedatives
- Artificial tear solution
- Anti-itch cream
- Water-based sterile lubricant
- Animal bug spray
- Styptic pencil
- Rubbing alcohol
- Epsom salts
- Thermometer
- Tick remover
- Tweezers
- Nail clippers
- Needle-nose pliers
- Syringe
- Eyedroppers
- Flashlight
- Pet toys and bed (familiar items can help pets feel more comfortable)
- Current photo of pet
- A description of the pet, including age, sex, neuter status, colors and approximate weight.


Remember, injured pets may be scared, in pain or confused, and even the most gentle pet may bite or scratch. Try to stay calm, move slowly, and handle your pet carefully. If possible, secure him or her in a carrier during transport.

Creating A Pet EMERGENCY First Aid Kit

Here are some helpful items* to consider when making an emergency first aid kit for your pet. Store the items in a waterproof container. Make sure to note the seasonal items (e.g., winter blankets, season appropriate medicines, etc.) and expiration dates.

- A book detailing animal first-aid procedures and tips
- Copies of your pet's medical/vaccination records
- Contact information for your:
 - Veterinarian
 - Veterinary emergency clinic
 - ASPCA's Animal Poison Control Center (1-888-426-4435)
 - Friend or family member who is familiar with your pet

GENERAL ITEMS



PET-SPECIFIC SUPPLIES



- Spare leash and collar
- Cloth muzzle
- Prescribed medication records—
It is always a good idea to have an extra supply of pet's prescribed medications.
- Bottled water & bowl
- Bag of food (Be sure to mark the date of storage to replace as needed)
- Dog waste bag, paper towels, antibacterial soap

- Gauze rolls and adhesive tapes - Used to control bleeding and provide support for suspected bone fractures or breaks
- Bandage scissors
- Self-adhesive bandages (does not stick to fur)
- Antiseptic products - Used on cuts and scratches to prevent infection and relieve pain
- Cotton balls
- Gauze pads (for wound cleaning)
- Instant ice pack
- Saline solution
- Blanket
- Pet carrier

FIRST-AID SUPPLIES



OVER-THE-COUNTER ITEMS



- Milk of magnesia, activated charcoal for ingestion of poisons
- Anti-diarrheal pills
- Flea and tick medicine
- Sedatives
- Artificial tear solution
- Veterinarian suggested allergy medicine, such as Diphenhydramine
- Anti-itch cream
- Water-based sterile lubricant
- Animal bug spray
- Styptic pencil to stop bleeding
- Rubbing alcohol
- Epsom salt
- Glucose paste or corn syrup for animals that are diabetic or have low blood sugar

Keep in Mind...
When an animal becomes ill or requires emergency first aid care, the veterinarian should be contacted immediately.

- Thermometer
- Tick remover
- Tweezers
- Nail Clippers
- Needle-nose pliers
- Syringe
- Eye droppers
- Pen light/ Flashlight

USEFUL TOOLS



REMEMBER!

- Injured pets may be scared, in pain, or confused
- Even the most gentle pet may bite or scratch
- Take precautions to avoid getting hurt:
 - Avoid mouth
 - Do not smother the pet
 - Stay calm, slowly move, and handle carefully
 - Stop if pet becomes agitated
 - Use a muzzle, but only if animal is not vomiting
- If possible, secure animal in a carrier during transport.
- To avoid distraction and provide comfort, have someone ride with you or drive to the veterinarian.



* This is a comprehensive list of suggestions; you may include any items that best fit your needs.
Sources referred to:
https://ebusiness.avma.org/files/productdownloads/LR_COM_FirstAid_010816.pdf
<https://www.avma.org/public/EmergencyCare/Pages/First-Aid-Tips-for-Pet-Owners.aspx>
<https://www.avma.org/public/EmergencyCare/Pages/Supplies-Checklist.aspx>
http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/resources/tips/pet_first_aid_kit.html

Be prepared for disasters with a pet emergency kit ready to go.

Learn More

Download an infographic on emergency preparedness at <https://www.henryscheinvet.com/firstaid>.