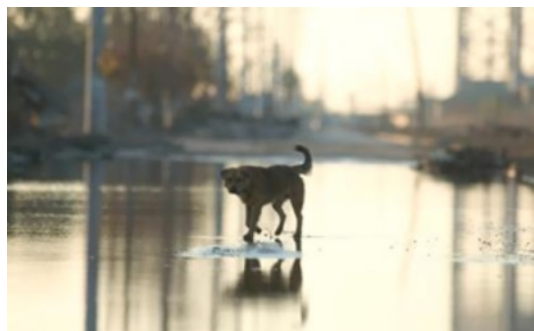




Flood Preparedness

Pet Plan



Be Prepared Before the Next Flood

In addition to insuring your property, there are things you can do to minimize potential losses to your home and ensure your family's safety. Discuss the types of hazards that could affect your family. Know your home's vulnerability to storm surge, flooding, and wind. The following are tips to create a pet plan. For more information on flood preparation, visit [FloodSmart.gov/petplan](https://www.floodsmart.gov/petplan).

Pet Plan

Before the Disaster

- Make sure that your pets are current on their vaccinations. Pet shelters may require proof of vaccines.
- Have a current photograph.
- Keep a collar with identification on your pet and have a leash on hand to control your pet.
- Have a properly sized pet carrier for each animal—carriers should be large enough for the animal to stand and turn around.
- Plan your evacuation strategy and don't forget your pet! Specialized pet shelters, animal control shelters, veterinary clinics, friends, and relatives out of harm's way are ALL potential refuges for your pet during a disaster.
- If you plan to shelter your pet, work it into your evacuation route planning.

During the Disaster

- Animals brought to a pet shelter are required to have:
 - proper identification collar and rabies tag
 - proper identification on all belongings
 - a carrier or cage
 - a leash
 - an ample supply of food, water, and food bowls
 - any necessary medications
 - specific care instructions
 - newspapers or trash bags for clean-up
- Bring pets indoors well in advance of a storm—reassure them and remain calm.
- Pet shelters will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Call ahead and determine availability.





After the Disaster

- Walk pets on a leash until they become re-oriented to their home. Often, familiar scents and landmarks may be altered and pets could easily be confused and become lost. Also, downed power lines, reptiles brought in with high water, and debris can all pose a threat for animals after a disaster.
- If pets cannot be found after a disaster, contact the local animal control office to find out where lost animals can be recovered. Bring along a picture of your pet, if possible.
- After a disaster, animals can become aggressive or defensive—monitor their behavior.

Pet Disaster Supply Kit

- Proper identification including immunization records
- Ample supply of food and water
- A carrier or cage
- Medications
- Muzzle, collar, and leash

Additional Links

- The Humane Society Disaster Center: humanesociety.org/about/departments/disaster_preparedness.html
- Ready.gov: ready.gov/caring-animals