

Preparedness Tips to Keep You and Your Pets Safe

This material is provided as a public service. Its purpose is to increase hurricane awareness. The key to survival is advance preparation!

WHEN A WATCH IS ISSUED

- Monitor storm reports
- Make arrangements for pets
- Check supplies
- Fuel automobiles
- Store non-perishable foods
- Store fresh drinking water
- Protect glass openings
- Buy materials for emergency repairs

WHEN A WARNING IS ISSUED

- Monitor storm reports
- Leave mobile homes
- Prepare for high winds
- Protect windows
- Store valuables and paperwork
- Prepare for floods and tornadoes
- Double-check survival supplies

SAFETY REMINDERS:

If You Evacuate

- Take your disaster supply kit
- Bring pillows and blankets
- Have a safe place to go
- Bring extra cash
- Enact your pet plan
- Bring important family documents in a waterproof container
- Secure your home
- Follow your county evacuation map
- Don't drive on flooded roads
- Follow officials' instructions
- Stay away from downed power lines
- After the threat, listen to local officials for the all-clear

If You Stay at Home If you are not able to evacuate, it is best to stay at a shelter. In the event of a disaster, there are special shelters set up for those with special medical needs. If you do choose to stay at home, follow these tips:

- Cover all windows and doors with shutters or other shielding materials
- Have extra cash on hand

- Have a weather radio on hand for frequent updates
- Follow instructions of local officials
- Stay away from windows and doors
- Go to an interior room on the first floor
- Have a family communication plan
- Remain indoors even during the eye of the storm

GENERATOR SAFETY

Portable generators are a good source of alternative power if an outage occurs, but they should only be used in emergency situations. An improperly installed or operated generator can be deadly! View more information on safely operating a generator.

BASIC EMERGENCY SUPPLIES

- The best time to assemble a 3-day disaster supply kit is well before the storm hits. Many of these are common household items. Store enough supplies for at least 3 days, and if possible, for 7 days.
- Easy to carry water-tight container(s) (for all of your items)
- Water – 1 gallon per person per day, along with a water purification kit or bleach
- First aid kit and first aid book
- Mosquito repellent and sunscreen
- Pre-cooked, non-perishable foods, like canned meats, granola bars, peanut butter, instant soup, cereals, dried fruit, powdered milk, etc.
- Portable camp stove or grill with extra propane
- Non-electric can opener and waterproof lighter
- Paper plates, cups, utensils, paper towels
- Aluminum foil, oven mitts, trash bags
- Baby supplies: formula, bottle, pacifier, diapers, baby wipes, etc.
- Anti-bacterial hand wipes or gel
- Blanket or sleeping bag per person
- Battery operated alarm clock, radio and/or TV with extra batteries
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Essential medications (and copies of the prescriptions)
- Bar soap, toilet articles
- Toilet paper, feminine hygiene supplies
- Cash and change
- Seasonal change of clothing, including sturdy shoes and work gloves
- Cleaning supplies, hand tools, duct tape, rope, etc.
- Documents, backup discs of important computer files, medical history info, photo IDs
- Camera, books, games, cards, etc.
- Food, water, leash and carrier for pets

PET SAFETY

- Pets are only allowed in specific, designated public shelters for health and space reasons, and are housed in separate locations at those shelters.

- In the event of a disaster, if you must evacuate, the most important thing you can do for your pets is to evacuate them too. Pets are not allowed at most hotels and motels in North Carolina, so emergency arrangements for them may require careful planning.
- Keep your pet's vaccinations up to date. Pet shelters may require proof of vaccines.
- Keep your pet on a leash with proper identification.
- Have a properly-sized pet carrier for each animal, large enough for the animal to stand and turn around.
- Animals brought to a pet shelter are required to have:
 - Proper identification, including collar and rabies tag
 - Proper identification on all belongings
 - A carrier
 - A leash
 - An ample supply of food, water and food bowls
 - Any necessary medications
 - Specific care instructions
 - Newspapers or trash bags for clean-up

If you must leave your pet behind, prepare an appropriate area for it. Put the pet in a carrier in an interior closet or bathroom with plenty of water, food, toys and blankets.