



# HURRICANE PREPARATION & SAFETY TIPS FOR PETS



You must **PLAN** for hurricanes, and that planning should include your pets!



## BEFORE THE HURRICANE/STORM

*Planning ahead is the most important thing you can do for your pets if you must evacuate your home.*

### RESEARCH A SAFE PLACE TO TAKE YOUR PETS

- Ask friends or relatives if they are willing to shelter you and your pets.
- Look for pet-friendly facilities in your state. For a list of pet-friendly lodging and their restrictions, check out [www.petswelcome.com](http://www.petswelcome.com) or [www.pets-allowed-hotels.com](http://www.pets-allowed-hotels.com).
- You can also check animal boarding facilities, humane societies and animal control shelters. Call ahead to check on their restrictions.

### SAFETY SUPPLIES AND EMERGENCY PRODUCTS

- Make sure your pets are current on all vaccinations.
- Have a recent photograph of you and your pets together to show proof of ownership in case you become separated.
- Have your pets implanted with a microchip as a permanent form of identification.
- Whether you stay home or evacuate, put together a pet emergency kit. Items to keep in or near your kit include:
  1. Collar with tags and sturdy leash
  2. Any necessary medications (at least a two-week supply)
  3. Photocopies of health records
  4. First-aid supplies
  5. Secure, unbreakable, covered carrier (large enough that your pet can completely turn around)
  6. Flashlight
  7. Food and bottled water (at least a two-week supply for each pet)
  8. Food and water bowls
  9. Recent photograph of you and your pets together
  10. Favorite toy (toys can help reduce the stress of unfamiliar surroundings)
  11. Disposable trash bags or newspaper for clean-up
  12. Zipper storage bags for important papers, treats, toys, etc.

## DURING THE HURRICANE/STORM

- Keep your pets calm during the storm.
- If your pets shows signs of anxiety, **do NOT try to "comfort them."** This will sound like praise to your pets and may increase their anxiety.
- Instead, remain calm! If you act anxious, your pets will feed off of this. Try to stay as close to their normal routine as possible.
- Use that special "den" where your pets feel safe. A properly introduced crate or kennel (done ahead of time) can be a great den for them.
- Turn on a TV or radio at normal volume to distract your pets from loud noises and help them to relax. Classical music is the most calming.
- Keep windows and curtains closed to reduce noises and bright flashes. The more you can reduce the noise and flashes, the better your pets will cope.

## AFTER THE HURRICANE/STORM

- Walk your pets on a leash until they become re-oriented to the area and your home.
- If you have lost your pet, contact the local animal control offices to find out where lost animals can be recovered. Bring along a recent picture of your pet if possible.

This information is brought to you as a public service by Bark Busters Home Dog Training – the world's largest, most trusted dog training company. Bark Busters is the only international dog training company that offers a written lifetime guarantee. More information can be obtained by contacting your local behavioral therapist at 1-877-500-BARK or by visiting [www.BarkBusters.com](http://www.BarkBusters.com).