

Pets

In an emergency, your pet will depend on you for his or her safety and well-being. It's up to you to protect Fido or Fluffy when the unexpected hits, so create a Ready kit and emergency plan for your pet today.

Make an Emergency Plan

If you leave your pets behind, they may be lost, injured – or worse. Never leave a pet chained outdoors. Plan options include:

- Create a buddy system in case you're not home. Ask a trusted neighbor to check on your animals.
- Most public shelters can't accept pets due to health regulations, so plan accordingly.
 - Find pet friendly hotels along your evacuation route and keep a list in your pet Ready kit. Visit [Go Pet Friendly](#) for hotels outside Georgia.
 - Locate boarding facilities or animal hospitals near your evacuation shelter.
 - Consider an out-of-town friend or relative
- Locate a veterinarian or animal hospital in the area where you may be seeking temporary shelter, in case your pet needs medical care. Add the contact information to your Ready kit.
- Have your pet microchipped and make sure that you not only keep your address and phone number up-to-date, but that you also include contact info for an emergency contact outside of your immediate area.

Remember, during a disaster what's good for you is good for your pet, so get them ready today.

Prepare With A Pet Ready Kit

Include basic survival items and items to keep your pet happy and comfortable. This list provides a good start.

- **Food.** At least a three day supply in an airtight, waterproof container.
- **Water.** At least three days of water specifically for your pets.
- **Medicines and medical records.**
- **Important documents.** Registration information, adoption papers and vaccination documents. Talk to your veterinarian about microchipping and enrolling your pet in a recovery database.
- **First aid kit.** Cotton bandage rolls, bandage tape and scissors; antibiotic ointment; flea and tick prevention; latex gloves, isopropyl alcohol and saline solution. Including a pet first aid reference book is a good idea too.
- **Collar or harness with ID tag, rabies tag and a leash.**

- **Crate or pet carrier.** Have a sturdy, safe crate or carrier in case you need to evacuate. The carrier should be large enough for your pet to stand, turn around and lie down.
- **Sanitation.** Pet litter and litter box if appropriate, newspapers, paper towels, plastic trash bags and household chlorine bleach.
- **A picture of you and your pet together.** If you become separated, a picture of you and your pet together will help you document ownership and allow others to assist you. Add species, breed, age, sex, color and distinguishing characteristics.
- **Familiar items.** Familiar items, such as treats, toys and bedding can help reduce stress for your pet.

**Source: Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency - <https://gema.georgia.gov/>*