

FAMILY DISASTER PLAN

- ✓ Discuss the type of hazards that could affect your family. Know your home's vulnerability to **storm surge, flooding** and **wind**.
- ✓ Store all important documents (tax documents, receipts, real property titles and deeds, insurance policies, wills, etc...) in a secure location, preferably in a password protected internet location. POA offers secure, personal storage vaults on our site. See page 4 for details.
- ✓ Locate a safe room or the safest areas in your home for each hurricane hazard. In certain circumstances the safest areas may not be your home but within your community.
- ✓ Determine escape routes from your home and places to meet. These should be measured in tens of miles rather than hundreds of miles.
- ✓ Have an out-of-state friend as a family contact, so all your family members have a single point of contact.
- ✓ Make a plan now for what to do with your [pets](#) if you need to evacuate.
- ✓ Post emergency telephone numbers by your phones and make sure your children know how and when to call 911.
- ✓ Check your insurance coverage - flood damage is not usually covered by homeowners insurance.
- ✓ Stock non-perishable emergency supplies and a [Disaster Supply Kit](#).
- ✓ Use a [NOAA weather radio](#). Remember to replace its battery every 6 months, as you do with your smoke detectors.
- ✓ Take First Aid, CPR and disaster preparedness classes.

Source: FEMA and POA

DON'T FORGET PETS

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 and 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.



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DISASTER SUPPLY KIT

- Water** - at least 1 gallon daily per person for 3 to 7 days
- Food** - at least enough for 3 to 7 days
 - non-perishable packaged or canned food / juices
 - foods for infants or the elderly
 - snack foods
 - non-electric can opener
 - cooking tools / fuel
 - paper plates / plastic utensils
- Blankets / Pillows, etc.**
- Clothing** - seasonal / rain gear/ sturdy shoes
- First Aid Kit / Medicines / Prescription Drugs**
- Special Items** - for babies and the elderly
- Toiletries / Hygiene items / Moisture wipes**
- Flashlight / Batteries**
- Radio** - Battery operated and NOAA weather radio
- Cash (with some small bills)** - Banks and ATMs may not be open or available for extended periods.
- Keys**
- Toys, Books and Games**
- Important documents** - in a waterproof container or watertight resealable plastic bag or better yet, stored in the secure cyber vault offers to its full members
 - insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security card, etc.
- Tools** - keep a set with you during the storm
- Vehicle fuel tanks filled**
- Pet care items**
 - proper identification / immunization records / medications
 - ample supply of food and water
 - a carrier or cage
 - muzzle and leash

Source: FEMA and POA



PETS

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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 and news papers or trash bags for clean-up.

Bring pets indoor well in advance of a storm - reassure them and remain calm.

Pet shelters will be filled on 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.

Don't forget your pet when preparing a family disaster plan.