



April 2025

EMERGENCY PREP & PLANNING FOR ANIMAL TRAVELERS

Tips & Checklists for Animal Owners, Hosts, and Sitters

Whether you're an animal owner whose pets, equines or other companion animals are traveling with you, or staying home with a caregiver, an Emergency / Disaster Action Plan is essential.

If you own or manage a Pet-Friendly vacation rental, Inn, guest ranch or resort, you can help your guests and your community be being prepared for animals—as well as people — who might have to shelter for an extended period at your property.

Here's a useful guide for all!

When your animals are staying at home

- Your home and animal-sitter should have a copy of your Animal Emergency Disaster Plan, (DAP).
- Put everything in a binder.
- Leave your "DAP" binder on the kitchen counter.
- Put Pet Ready Kits and animal long-term emergency supplies in easy-access locations, near fire extinguishers.
- Make a Personal Protection Equipment, (PPE), Kit for sitters! Include: Work gloves, hard hat, safety goggles, respirator masks, headlamp, pre-set NOAA radio.

If your animals are travelling with you

- Keep them secure in the car or RV-make sure they can't jump out windows, thru open doors, etc.
- Keep them in a quiet, secure place in your vacation "home"; make sure unsuspecting hosts or guests don't accidentally let them out.
- If they do escape in unfamiliar territory, notify local Animal Control immediately, and ask your host or a neighbor to post on the local NextDoor group.

Key items to include in your DAP

- All your Animal emergency and veterinarian contacts.
- Vaccination records and medications.
- Advance Care Directive.
- Good photos of your animals.
- Advance Care Directive.
- Transportation and sheltering resources for your large animals.
- Know Your Zone for wherever you might be!
- Print Evac Zone Maps and local Emergency Services website, Twitter, and Facebook.
- List of local News Radio stations.
- Detailed “Shelter-in-Place Prep” instructions for equines, “backyard” farm animals, poultry.
- Red Flag / Weather Warning Action Checklist.
- 10-minute “Go Now!” Checklist.
- Site map with animal, resource, and hazard info.
- Animal insurance info.

Airbnb, VRBO, Camp Site, B&B, and Hip Camp Safety

- Hosts encouraging pet guests need to be prepared for disasters.
- Visitors are “transient residents” who often do not have disaster-prep on their minds when planning a trip with pets.
- Be a “Super Host”, and help your guests be as safe and ready as possible if you – and they – are in a potential Evacuation OR SIP situation.
- Send a Pet Vacation Preparedness Packet to guests when confirming their reservation.
- A responsible host will let guests know about impending and current weather alerts, possible hazards, and area Evacuation Zones and Emergency resources.
- Uninformed and poorly prepared guests with - or without - animals are a liability for the entire community, and place extra burdens on responders.



[CLICK HERE](https://HALTERproject.org/Traveler-safety-tips) (HALTERproject.org/Traveler-safety-tips) to download this document to share with guests or post on your website.

Here's a Checklist of Critical Items to Help Everyone Be Safer

DAP for Guests with Pets

- ⇒ Emergency Contacts
- ⇒ Local Resources: Evac Zone Map, Emergency Alert signup info, news radio stations, Agency Social Media accounts
- ⇒ Emergency Veterinarians & Hospitals
- ⇒ Pet Ready-Kit checklist
- ⇒ Pets are all ID'd, microchipped, and vaccinated per local recommendations
- ⇒ Make sure guests know where to find fire extinguishers and know how to use them.
- ⇒ Provide a site map with locations of hoses, emergency supplies, and gas tanks.
- ⇒ Provide clear instructions for disabling electric gates, garage doors.
- ⇒ Alert guests to possible Public Safety Power Shutoff, (PSPS)
- ⇒ Provide clear, concise instructions for starting generator
- ⇒ Clearly explain actions to take that might be automatic or self-evident to you but not to guests.

Emergency Supplies for Animal Visitors

When and where possible, create and maintain a cache of emergency supplies for pet travelers who, along with their owners, might be forced to Shelter in Place at your property. This Animal Emergency Supply Cache can also be a valuable Community Asset.

Items to include:

- Folding wire crates in assorted sizes for dogs & cats
- Animal-Safe disinfectant and cleaning supplies
- Kennel pads, poop bags, buckets, newspapers, trash bags
- Cat litter & litter boxes, foil lasagna pans
- Clean, old towels & blankets
- Emergency foil blank



HELP FOR YOUR ANIMALS INSIDE EVACUATION ZONES

Don't wait for an order to Evacuate!

During WEATHER ALERTS and EVAC WARNINGS, your prearranged network of helpers & destinations are your best resources. Keep contacts updated and easy to find.

When an **EVAC WARNING** is issued:

Dangerous conditions may exist in your area & could worsen fast.

PREPARE TO EVACUATE ASAP!

WHO? Call on your personal resource network.

Check with neighbors.

WHEN? Prep during weather alerts.

Leave ASAP if **EVAC WARNING** is issued.



When an **EVAC ORDER** is issued:

You are in immediate, life-threatening danger.



LEAVE NOW!!

Only authorized responders are allowed inside evacuated zones.

Animal Helplines and/or Emergency Shelters may not be activated until evacuations are ordered, or an emergency is declared.

WHO DO YOU CALL?

- 911 if human lives are at risk.
- Local Disaster Animal Helplines / Hotlines.



WHAT KINDS OF HELP CAN YOU REQUEST?

- **ANIMAL EVACUATION**
- **WELFARE CHECKS** on animals sheltered in place.
(Includes water, food, safety, and Vet care, if needed.)
- **REPORT LOOSE AND INJURED ANIMALS**
(Including pets, equines, livestock.)



REPORT INJURED WILDLIFE to ANIMAL SERVICES
or local/regional wildlife or bird rescue centers.

HELP FOR LIVESTOCK

Most counties have training and credential requirements for owners, workers, and resources to care for production livestock inside Evacuated zones.

Contact local Ag Commissioner, Farm Bureau, or Cooperative Extension for information about the Ag Emergency Access Program in your County(s).

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

ANIMAL
CONTROL
Phone #: _____

HALTER
Project
LEADING RESIDENTS TO
SAFETY & PREPAREDNESS
HALTERproject.org

**ANIMALS MAY BE INSIDE THE HOUSE,
BARN, OR COOP**



_____ of **DOGS**

Names: _____

_____ of **CATS**

Names: _____



BARN/OUTSIDE -- CATS, DOGS



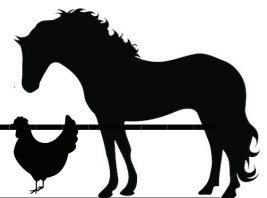
of Cats _____

of Dogs _____

of Other _____

LIVESTOCK / POULTRY -- SPECIES & LOCATIONS





OWNER: _____ CELL: _____

ADDRESS _____

EMERG. CONTACT: _____ CELL: _____

PET(S) INSIDE

DO NOT

OPEN DOOR

PET(S) NAME(S) & INFO:

ANIMAL EMERGENCY PLAN

Keep your pet Disaster Plan with your other important documents

Pet's Name: _____

Pet's Description: _____

Medical Information

Veterinarian's Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Pet Allergies: _____

Special Diet Needs: _____

Pet's Medications and Doses

Medication: _____ Dose: _____

Medication: _____ Dose: _____

****Attach copies of pet's vaccination records and a photo of your pet to this plan****

Emergency Sheltering Information

For public health reasons, many emergency shelters cannot accept pets. Identify 2 hotels/motels that accept pets in your area for short-term emergencies and 2 long-term pet boarding options. Long-term options could include boarding kennels, veterinarians, and animal shelters.

Hotels/Motels:

Name: _____ Rate: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Rate: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Boarding Options:

Name: _____ Rate: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Rate: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Update your Pet Disaster Plan, Ready Kit, and emergency supplies once a year.

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