

Animals

Animals are also affected by disasters. Use the guidelines below to prepare a plan for caring for pets and large animals.

Plan for pet disaster needs by:

- Identifying shelter (not all shelters are animal friendly.)
- Gathering pet supplies. If you feed your pet canned food, make sure you have a manual can opener packed with the food.
- Ensuring your pet has proper ID and up-to-date veterinarian records.
- Providing a pet carrier and leash.
- Having an up to date photograph of your pet. If it has any distinguishing features or markings, make sure you photograph it.
- Identify your pet by having it tattooed or tagged with a microchip. Most animal shelters and veterinarians have a scanner that will identify who owns the animal.

Take the following steps to prepare to shelter your pet:

- Call your local emergency management office, animal shelter, or animal control office to get advice and information.
- Keep veterinary records to prove vaccinations are current.
- Find out which local hotels and motels allow pets and where pet boarding facilities are located. Be sure to research some outside your local area in case local facilities close.
- Know that, with the exception of service animals, pets are not typically permitted in emergency shelters as they may affect the health and safety of other occupants.

Guidelines for Large Animals:

If you have large animals such as horses, cattle, sheep, goats, or pigs on your property, be sure to prepare before a disaster.

Use the following guidelines:

- Ensure all animals have some form of identification.
- Evacuate animals whenever possible. Map out primary and secondary routes in advance.
- Make available vehicles and trailers needed for transporting and supporting each type of animal. Also make available experienced handlers and drivers. **Note:** It is best to allow animals a chance to become accustomed to vehicular travel beforehand, by actually transporting them, so they are less frightened and easier to move.
- Ensure destinations have food, water, veterinary care, and handling equipment.
- If evacuation is not possible, animal owners must decide whether to move large animals to shelter or turn them outside.

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Shelters in Your Area	
Find pet-friendly lodging in your area (LINK)	
Animal Friendly (name, address, telephone number, animal size/ limit per family)	Non-Animal Friendly (name, address, telephone number)

Contact Information for You, Your Out of Area Contact, Your Vet, Your Local Animal Shelter, Your Local ASPCA or Equivalent Organization	

Persons or Organizations that Provide Large Animal Transportation Services (name, address, telephone number, transportation services/capacities available)	

