

Stay informed

Sign up for SMC Alert and pay attention to wireless emergency alerts for local alerts and warnings sent by state and local public safety officials. Know your Zonehaven evacuation zone.

Evacuation

If local officials ask you to evacuate, that means your pet should evacuate too. If you leave your pets behind, they may end up lost, injured or worse.

If you evacuate your home, take your pet's supplies with you. Practice evacuating in the car with your animals, so they're more comfortable if you need to evacuate. Get your pets familiar with their carriers before severe weather or wildfires hit, in case you need to evacuate.

After a Disaster

Animals are sensitive. Your pets may be distressed, so keep an eye on their behavior. After a storm or earthquake, don't allow your pets outside unattended. After a disaster, don't open a car door if you have a loose animal inside as the animal might bolt.

Don't have a pet, but want to be of help?

Keep a few slip leashes in your car and your emergency kit as these can come in handy. Also add some treats to attract a lost or scared animal.

About MPC Ready

The MPC Ready organization's mission is to work collaboratively to help build disaster prepared, and climate-change ready, neighborhoods through advocacy, education and training, resources, organization and support.

In a disaster, studies show that our most immediate source of help will be the neighbors living closest to us. Emergency response personnel will be overwhelmed and there won't be nearly enough to go around.

Neighborhood-level disaster preparedness efforts, such as those from MPC Ready, help to meet *major gaps* in community-wide disaster preparedness. These efforts will increase our community's resiliency and hasten recovery following a disaster.

For More Information

Visit www.mpcready.org. Call 650-380-3028 or email info@mpcready.org.

Daniel P. Aldrich. *Building Resilience: Social Capital in Post-Disaster Recovery*.

Kathleen Tierney. *Disasters: A Sociological Approach*.

Amanda Ripley. *The Unthinkable: Who Survives When Disaster Strikes – and Why*. 2008.

Oregon Office of Emergency Management: Two Weeks Ready & Central United States Earthquake Consortium: Two Weeks Ready

Preparedness for Pets



Revised 12 April 2022



Your pet is part of the family. Is your pet part of your disaster plan?

Introduction

The traditional advice to store three days' worth of supplies is a good start. However, a large earthquake will likely leave much of our region's transportation routes severely impacted. Delivery of assistance and supplies may be difficult or impossible initially. People will have to count on each other in the community, workplace and at home in order to be safe until help can arrive. It is recommended that we strive to be self-sufficient for two weeks.

Make a plan

In a disaster, you want your entire family to be safe and that includes your pets. As you get your family more prepared, include pet food and supplies in your preparedness kit.

By having a plan for your pets, you will likely have less difficulty, stress or worry when making decisions during a disaster.



Basic pet preparedness

Add a window decal to your home, so neighbors and first responders know there are pets inside. Arrange a safe room at home for your pets.



Make a backup plan in case you cannot care for your animals yourself. Develop a buddy system with neighbors, friends or relatives to care for, or evacuate your pets, if you cannot. Create a list of emergency telephone numbers, including your veterinarian, state veterinarian, poison control, local animal shelter, and animal care and control. Give a copy to those in your buddy system.

Consider microchipping your pet. Make sure your pet's tags are up to date and securely fasten these to your pet's collar. If your pet gets lost, the tag is your pet's ticket home.

Identify shelters that take pets

Many public shelters and hotels do not allow pets inside. Know a safe place where you can take your pets before disasters and emergencies happen.

Make a pet emergency kit

- Pet food in an airtight, waterproof container and bottled water
- Medications and veterinary records in a waterproof container and available electronically.
- Cat litter/plan
- Manual can opener
- Food dishes
- First aid kit and other supplies
- An extra supply of the medicine your pet takes in a waterproof container.
- A leash, backup leash, collar, updated ID and rabies tag
- Traveling bag, crate or sturdy carrier for each pet
- Grooming items such as pet shampoo.
- Hygiene supplies: liter and a box, waste bags for dogs, bleach for cleaning
- A bed and some favorite items
- A current photo of you and your pet together. If you become separated, a photo will help you to document pet ownership and allow others to assist you in identifying your pet.