

Disaster Preparation

Disaster Kit for Dogs

Prepare an emergency kit for each dog in your household.

Stock up on the items you may need during a disaster **now** so you do not get caught unprepared. Below is a checklist of items you should include in your pets' disaster kits. Store your disaster kit supplies in an easy-to-grab container.

Food

At least a **one-week supply of the food** your dog is used to eating. If your dog eats canned food, buy cans small enough to be used at one feeding since you may not have a way to properly refrigerate leftovers. Buy pop top cans or make sure to include a **can opener** in your kit. Store food in an **airtight, water proof container** and rotate food at least once every (3) months. Don't forget an **extra food dish** just in case the one normally used is lost and a **spoon** to scoop and/or mix food.

Water

At least a **one-week supply of water**, stored in a cool, dark location. Be sure to rotate it so it remains fresh. Remember that if the tap water is not suitable for humans to drink, it is also not suitable for animals to drink. Don't forget an **extra water dish** just in case the one normally used is lost.

Sanitation

A **pooper scooper or plastic bags** to dispose of your dog's waste.

Cleaning Supplies

A small container of **liquid soap** for washing out your dog's food and water dishes. Include **paper towels** and a **disinfectant** for drying dishes and other cleanup if you will be housing your dog in a crate. **Alcohol gel hand sanitizer** is very useful to keep your own hands clean.

Collar and Tag

A proper fitting collar and an identification tag should be kept on your dog at all times, and an **extra collar and identification tag** should be kept with your disaster supplies should the permanent ones get lost during a disaster (do not keep a choke collar on a dog all the time, as your dog may accidentally get it caught on something and choke itself.) Have a **spare identification tag that you can write on**, so that if you are going to be living somewhere temporarily you can put the phone number and address of that location on the tag. You may want to consider micro-chipping or tattooing your dog as a more permanent form of identification.

Harness and Leash

A [proper fitting harness](#) and at least a [6-foot long leash](#). This is a stressful time for dogs too and a frightened dog can slip out of a collar but not a harness.

Temporarily Confining Your Dog

A [plastic airline crate or wire collapsible crate](#) to transport your dog should you have to evacuate and/or to keep the dog in following a disaster. Make sure the crate is large enough for your dog to lie down comfortably and allow room for a food and water dish. Don't forget to include a Kong toy or other toy your dog likes. (Crates can be purchased at PetSmart, Target, Walmart, Arne's, etc.)

Medications

At least a [two week supply of any medications](#) your dog is taking. Include a copy of your dog's [medical records](#), including [vaccination records](#). Don't forget your dog's heartworm preventative!

Pictures

[Current pictures of your dog](#) to use in case your dog gets lost and you need to create posters. Include yourself in some of the pictures in case you have to show proof of guardianship. Remember, as with other paperwork in these times, placing it in a [ziploc bag](#) is an added measure of safety.

First Aid Kit

Check with your veterinarian to find out what he/she recommends you include in your first aid kit. Suggested items include:

- first aid book for dogs
- conforming bandage (3" x 5")
- absorbent gauze pads (4" x 4")
- absorbent gauze roll (3" x 1 yard)
- cotton tipped applicators (1 small box)
- antiseptic wipes (1 package)
- antibiotic cream (1 container)
- hydrocortisone anti-itch cream
- tweezers and blunt end scissors
- instant cold pack (available at sports stores)
- latex disposable gloves (several pairs)
- proper fitting muzzle
- gel hand sanitizer
- betadyne solution (1 bottle)