

PET DISASTER EVACUATION PLAN

WHEN A LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECEIVES A WARNING THAT A DISASTER OR EMERGENCY COULD BE IMMINENT, LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS MAY ORDER AN EVACUATION, MEANING YOU SHOULD LEAVE IMMEDIATELY. ENSURE YOUR FAMILY AND PET'S SAFETY IN AN EMERGENCY BY INCLUDING YOUR PET IN THE FAMILY DISASTER PLAN. BEING PREPARED WILL HELP YOU THINK CLEARLY AND KEEP YOU CALM DURING A CRISIS.



- Always follow the instructions of local officials and remember that your evacuation route may not be available because of the disaster, so make alternate route plans.
- If you must evacuate, take your pets with you, if practical.
- Arrange a safe room at home for your pets that is clear of hazards such as tools, debris or toxic products in case you can't evacuate your pet.
- Include your pets in evacuation drills so that they become familiar with an evacuation.
- You might not be home when disaster strikes, so plan with neighbors, friends, or relatives to make sure that someone is available to care for or evacuate your pets.



- Display "Pet Alert Rescue" stickers on your doors or windows to alert rescue workers. Free stickers are available from the [American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals \(APCA\)](#). If you evacuated with your pets, please write "Evacuated" across the sticker so workers are alerted. These stickers are one more way to ensure the welfare of your pets but you should not rely solely on them.



- Find out in advance where you can take your pets if you need to evacuate. Pets may not be allowed in local temporary emergency shelters for public health reasons unless they are service animals. Consider out of town family or friends, pet friendly hotels, boarding kennels, animal hospitals or animal shelters near your evacuation shelter or in an area unaffected by the disaster.

Pet Friendly Hotels include:

- o [Bring Fido](#) or 877.411.FIDO
- o [Pet Friendly Hotels](#) or 866.966.3046
- o [Pets Welcome](#) or 845.297.5150
- o [Trips with Pets](#) or 919.249.7387



- Keep a picture of you and your pet on your smartphone. If you become separated from your pet, this will help with identification and reunification.

- Make sure your pet is microchipped and/or wearing collars with up-to-date identification tags, including your cell phone number. This increases the chances of reuniting with your pet after a disaster.

- Keep your pet's vaccinations up-to-date and accessible on your smartphone. Many shelters, hotels or motels, veterinary hospitals and boarding kennels will require vaccination records to reduce the spread of disease.

- [Sign-up for Alerts](#) in your county's alerting program to receive wireless emergency alerts during disaster or emergency situations.



Contact:
California Animal Response Emergency System
(CARES)
(916) 900-5002
cdfa.ahb_cares_program@cdfa.ca.gov