



Scenario 6: Pet Preparedness Answer Key

1. Evacuating to an unfamiliar setting may cause an animal to feel anxious. Placing pets in appropriately-sized carriers or crates when evacuating should help reduce anxiety. Be sure your pet is microchipped and/or has necessary tags displayed, which should include your name and contact information and any allergies that the animal may have or special medication that it requires.
2. List the general description of your pet, including eye color, fur/hair color, distinguishing markings and approximate age, height, and weight.
3. Your local Office of Emergency Management (OEM) should have a list of local area shelters that accept animals in the event of an evacuation.
4. Many hotels (<http://www.pet-friendly-hotels.net>), motels and extended-stay residences are pet friendly regardless of an evacuation, so be sure to contact these facilities directly or check with your local OEM.
5. Just as you build a Go-Kit for yourself and your immediate family members, so too should you build a Go-Kit for your pet. At the very minimum, it should include food and water for three days, medication, favorite toys, a first-aid kit, pet carrier, and other items to help comfort your pet.
6. Keep your veterinarian's name and contact information along with copies of your pet's medical records. You can store this in a Ziploc bag in your pet's Go-Kit, in an off-site secure location, on a cloud, a safety deposit box or on a flash drive.
7. Be sure to have recent photos of your pet as this will help authorities locate it if you become separated. This includes contacting local law enforcement officials and providing them with a physical description of your pet along with recent photos. Other options, if possible, include utilizing personal social media accounts (Facebook, etc.) and contacting local media outlets and municipal animal shelters. After a disaster, don't allow your pets to roam without you. Landmarks may have been changed by the weather and your pet could become confused and get lost coming home.
8. If you have large animals such as horses, cattle, sheep, or goats, it is equally as important to prepare for their safety. Some tips include:
 - Ensure that all your animals have some form of identification.
 - Evacuate your animals whenever possible. Map out primary and secondary routes well in advance.
 - Ensure that you have available vehicles and/or trailers needed to transport your animals. If you need experienced drivers, make sure you are able to hire them as well.
 - Ensure the destination has the appropriate food, water, veterinary care, and handling equipment required.
 - If evacuation is not possible, you must decide whether to move your livestock to shelter or turn them outside.
9. Some good backup plans include planning with your neighbors, friends, and relatives to ensure that someone is available to care for/evacuate your pets in you aren't able to do so. Talk with your "pet care buddy" about your evacuation plans and make sure you show them where you keep your pet's emergency supply kit. Designate specific locations, one in your neighborhood and another



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farther away, where you will meet in an emergency.