

Top Ten Tips for Pet Owners During a Disaster

1. Keep Calm! Preparing in advance using the resources at <http://www.humanesocietyspca.com/disaster> can ensure that you have your pets covered and can focus on keeping your entire family safe. Animal sense stress and can react adversely.
2. Prepare a list of boarding facilities for your pet, or ask friends and relatives who live away from you if they would be willing to care for your pets in the event of an emergency.
3. At the first sign of a disaster, phone ahead to make arrangements for boarding your pet. A list of pet-friendly hotels can be found on our website.
4. Do NOT bring your pets to an evacuation shelter. Most shelters only allow service animals (such as seeing-eye dogs) to stay with their owners.
5. Ensure your pet wears a sturdy collar with all necessary ID tags (including vaccinations and microchip tags) at all times, and keep them on a leash.
6. Build a Pet Evacuation Pack (find out how on our website) and keep it on hand.
7. Bring pets indoors at the first sign or warning of a storm or disaster.
8. If you have more than one pet, keep them separated, even if they are usually the best of friends. Pets who are frightened or stressed may act unpredictably.
9. Keep your pets in a carrier or crate if possible during the emergency. This makes pets feel more secure.
10. Carry recent photos of you with your pet to aid identification and ownership issues that may arise.

More information can be found at <http://www.humanesocietyspca.com/disaster>.



Provided by the Humane Society/SPCA of Bexar County, 4804 Fredericksburg Rd., San Antonio, TX, 78229
www.humanesocietyspca.org