Suggested Pet Plan from FEMA

Make arrangements for your pets as part of your household disaster planning. If you must evacuate your home, Always take your pets with you. But remember pets will not be allowed in public emergency shelters.

BEFORE

Contact your local animal shelter, humane society, veterinarian or emergency management office for information on caring for pets in an emergency. Find out if there will be any shelters set-up to take pets in an emergency. Also, see if your veterinarian will accept your pet in an emergency.

Decide on safe locations in your house where you could leave your pet in an emergency.

You will need a pet carrier that allows your pet to stand up and turn around inside. Put familiar items such as the pet's normal bedding and favorite toys inside. Train your pet to become comfortable with the carrier. Use a variety of training methods such as feeding it in the carrier or placing a favorite toy or blanket inside.

If your pet is on medication or a special diet, find out from your veterinarian what you should do in case you have to leave it alone for several days. Try and get an extra supply of medications.

Make sure your pet has a properly fitted collar that includes current license and rabies tags.

- Including an identification tag that has your name, address, and phone number.
- If your dog normally wears a chain link "choker" collar, have a leather or nylon collar available if you have to leave him alone for several days.

Keep your pet's shots current and know where the records are.

Most kennels require proof of current rabies and distemper vaccinations before accepting a pet.

Contact motels and hotels in communities outside of your area and find out if they will accept pets in an emergency.

When assembling emergency supplies for the household, include items for pets.

- Extra food (The food should be dry and relatively unappealing to prevent overeating. Store the food in sturdy containers.)

- Kitty litter
- Large capacity self-feeder and water dispenser
- Extra medications

Trained Guide Dogs
In most states, trained guide dogs for the blind, hearing impaired or handicapped will be allowed to stay in emergency shelters with their owners. Check with local emergency management officials for more information.

Courtesy of JW Davis Solutions
http://www.jwdavissolutions.com/suggested_pet_plan_from_fema.htm