

Emergency action plans for your family should include your animals—all of your animals.

Our pets enrich our lives in more ways than we can count. In turn, they depend on us for their safety and well-being. Include your pets in your family emergency plan and disaster preparations.

What can you do to prepare?

Different disasters will require different responses. If you must evacuate your home, the most important thing you can do to protect your pets is to **take them with you**. So prepare now for the day when you and your pets may have to leave your home by:

- assembling a **Pet Grab n'Go Kit** including a pet first aid kit (*see reverse for more information on kits*) and storing the kit in either your small-pet crate or with a collapsible large crate
- preparing to house pets separately—if you have more than one pet, it may not be possible to keep them together
- keeping a list of “pet friendly” places, including phone numbers, with disaster supplies
- taking a Pet First Aid course
- making sure that your pet’s vaccinations are current, that you have a list of their required medications and that they are wearing collars with up-to-date identification
- considering having your pet “micro chipped” by your veterinarian

Where will you take your pet?

It may be difficult, if not impossible, to find shelter for your animals in the middle of a disaster, so plan ahead. Do not wait until disaster strikes to research. Know which:

- hotels and motels along your evacuation route will accept you and your pets in an emergency—ask if no-pet policies could be waived in an emergency
- friends, relatives, boarding facilities, animal shelters or veterinarians can care for your animals in an emergency

At the first sign of disaster what should you do?

Often warnings are issued hours, even days, in advance. Act to protect your pet at the first sign of a disaster by:

- calling ahead to confirm emergency shelter arrangements for you and your pets
- checking to be sure your **Pet Grab n'Go Kit** is ready to take at a moment's notice
- bringing all pets into the house so that you won't have to search for them if you have to leave in a hurry
- making sure all dogs and cats are wearing collars with securely fastened up-to-date identification
- attaching the phone number and address of your temporary shelter, if you know it, or of a friend or relative outside the disaster area

What if you are not at home when disaster strikes?

You may not be home when the evacuation order comes. Consider putting a pet alert sticker on an outside window to alert emergency workers to the presence of pets in your home.

Plan for a trusted neighbor to take your pets and meet you at a prearranged location. If you use a pet sitting service, they may be able to help, but you will need to discuss this possibility well in advance.

After the disaster . . .

The behavior of pets may change dramatically after a disaster, becoming aggressive or defensive, so be aware of their well-being and protect them from hazards to ensure the safety of other people and animals. Outside your home and in the car, keep dogs securely leashed. Transport cats in carriers. Do not leave animals unattended anywhere they can run off.

When you return home, give your pets time to settle back into their routines. Consult your veterinarian if any behavior problems persist.

With sincere appreciation, we acknowledge the assistance of:



Emergency Support Services (ESS)

is a community-based provincial emergency response program working under the umbrella of the Comox Valley Emergency Program (CVEP). The objective of ESS is to preserve the well-being of people affected by an emergency or disaster, ranging from a single house fire or calamities involving mass evacuation.

Comox Valley Emergency Support Services

3001 Moray Avenue
Courtenay BC V9N 7S7
office hours Tue 1000–1400
tel 250.334.8890
fax 250.334.8865
cvess@shawcable.com

Interested in becoming a volunteer?

Love animals?

Join the ESS Pet Care Team!

Disaster work depends on the commitment and dedication of many volunteers and offers a unique opportunity to help others when help is needed most.

Volunteers are always needed and welcomed!

Email or call today!

The Heart of Disaster Response

April 2013

CVES provides Assistance for the First 72 Hours After a Disaster

COMOX VALLEY Emergency Support Services Emergency Preparedness for Pets



Please share. Go to the CVEP website to download this brochure.

www.comoxvalleyemergencyprogram.com

Emergency Preparedness for Pets

Photocopy this form and pack in your own emergency kit.
 You may need this information to prove ownership.
 Keep the original form and your Pet First Aid Kit in your Pet Grab N' Go Kit.

Planning and preparation will help you to evacuate with your pets quickly and safely. :



Pet Identification

Pet name _____

Species _____

Breed _____

Age _____

General description _____

Distinctive physical traits _____

Behavioral concerns _____

Medical condition _____

Medication _____

Dosage _____

Feeding schedule _____

Microchip ID # _____

Tattoo # _____

Tattoo location _____

License # _____

Rabies tag # _____

Vet name/clinic _____

Vet phone _____

Owner Contact Information

Last name _____

First name _____

Street address _____

City/town _____

Phone _____

Cell _____

Email _____

Emergency Contact (out of region)

Last name _____

First name _____

Phone _____

Cell _____

Pet Grab N' Go Kit

Assemble emergency supplies for your pet in a water-proof container that can be easily carried. Label the exterior with your name and you pet's; store the kit in your small-pet crate or with a collapsible large crate.

Your kit should include:

- original copy of this information sheet
- basic Pet First Aid Kit (see next column)
- 14 day ration of food (pack canned food to decrease water intake or if you feed raw)
- can opener, a plastic lid to keep unused canned food fresh and 2 bowls
- 7 litres of fresh water (will vary depending on your pet)
- 2 sturdy 6' leashes, flat buckle collar or harness
- cage or carrier to transport your pet safely and ensure that they can't escape
- grooming supplies, chew or throw toy and a towel/blanket/pet bed with your scent on it
- current vaccination record
- consult your Vet for pain/diarrhea/antihistamine meds; note dosage for your pet
- 30 day supply of ongoing medication (note dosage)
- poop bags and hand sanitizer!

Remember to:

- store meds and paperwork in waterproof containers
- label all items with your name and your pet's including the exterior of the kit
- rotate medication, food and water every three months noting the month/year on each container with a permanent marker

m ___/y___ m ___/y___ m ___/y___ m ___/y___

m ___/y___ m ___/y___ m ___/y___ m ___/y___

Pet Basic First Aid Kit

Gather the following items into a sturdy, water-proof container:

- hand sanitizer and at least 6 pairs of latex gloves
- scissors, 8-10X10 sterile pads, rolled gauze, self-adhering wrap, duct tape, etc.
- cold pack, hydrogen peroxide, antiseptic cream, cornstarch for bleeding nails
- rectal digital thermometer, Vaseline, alcohol wipes
- anything rigid to use as a splint to protect a bone injury from further damage
- Pet First Aid booklet

Additional information sources:

Noah's Wish
www.noahswish.org

Canadian Disaster Animal Response Team
www.cdart.org

Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
www.spca.bc.ca

**Comox Valley
 Emergency Support Services
 PET CARE UNIT**
 provides a safe and secure location
 to temporarily hold
 domestic pets
 while evacuees are
 at the Reception Centre.