FLOODS AND YOUR PETS Natural Disasters



Floods can impact animal health as well as human health. Make plans for your pets in the event you will need to evacuate your home or farm.

Before a Flood

- · Create an emergency supply kit for your pet:
 - Leash, collar
 - Transport carrier
 - □ Food and water (5-7 day supply)
 - □ Any medications
 - □ Vaccination history, rabies certificate
 - Waste disposal supplies
 - □ A blanket
 - □ Favorite toy
 - Your veterinarian's contact information
 - Special supplies for pets such as birds, pocket pets or reptiles (e.g., heat lamps)
- · Make sure pets are current on all vaccinations.
- · Develop an evacuation plan for your pets.
 - For public health reasons, evacuation shelters will not be able to accept animals.
 - Identify pet friendly locations in case of the need to evacuate. www.petswelcome.com
 - Check with boarding facilities, per-friendly hotels, veterinary clinics, or relatives or family friends outside the impacted area.
- · Identification.
 - All animals should have some sort of identification (collar with tag, microchip).
 - □ Take a photo of the pet and keep it with the medical records.
 - Include any proof of ownership materials (e.g., registration, proof of purchase, adoption records, microchip information).

During a Flood

- · Bring your pets inside immediately.
- · AVOID leaving pets behind.
 - If there is no other alternative, leave them loose inside your home with food and plenty of water.
 - NEVER leave your pet chained outside or enclosed in a way they cannot escape danger.
 - Place a notice on the outside of your home with the location and type of pets inside, their names, your contact phone number and the name and number of your veterinarian.

After a Flood

- Be aware that a pet's behavior may change before, during and even after a disaster.
- Familiar scents and landmarks may be altered and your pet may become confused and lost.
 - In the first few days after the disaster, leash your pets when they go outside.
 - Always maintain close contact.
 - Reintroduce food in small servings, gradually working up to full portions, especially if animals have been without food for a prolonged period of time.
- Pets can be poisoned by exposure to harmful chemicals, products, or foods.
 - □ If you suspect that your pet has been poisoned, call the Animal Poison Control Center toll-free 1-888-426-4435 (calls answered 24 hours a day, every day).

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