



## Why prepare a pet “Emergency Supply Kit”?

- “If you evacuate your home, **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR PETS BEHIND!** Pets most likely cannot survive on their own; and if by some remote chance they do, you may not be able to find them when you return.” -FEMA, [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)
- “The best disaster preparedness starts with personal protection and safety. An attitude of personal responsibility allows individuals and interest groups to identify, prioritize and mitigate issues that arise in disasters. When individuals and interest groups collaborate with emergency management officials in their communities, programs based on the community's needs, expertise and resources can be developed. That preparedness benefits both people and the animals for which they care when disaster does strike.” -FEMA Emergency Management Institute
- “More than 30 percent of individuals who refused to evacuate during Hurricane Katrina did so because they were unwilling to leave their pets behind. An ASPCA survey conducted in 2004 indicated that nearly 50 percent of respondents did not have a family or pet evacuation plan. It also revealed that 67 percent of the respondents would refuse to leave pets behind or go to an evacuation shelter that did not accept pets.” -American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, [www.asPCA.org](http://www.asPCA.org)
- “Familiarize your animals with evacuation procedures and carriers. Take the carriers out several times a year and put dog or cat treats inside with blankets and toys and train your pet to enter the kennel. This will develop positive feelings associated with the carrier or kennel. Cat carriers should be large enough to hold a small litter pan and two small bowls and still allow your cat enough room to lie down comfortably or stand to use the litter pan. Dog carriers should be large enough for two bowls and allow room for your dog to stand and turn around. Label each carrier with your identification and contact information. Also, locate and prearrange an evacuation site for your family and animals outside your immediate area.” -American Veterinary Medical Association, [www.avma.org](http://www.avma.org)

