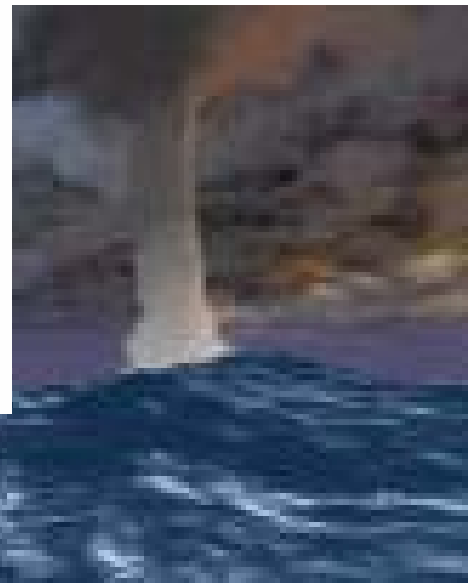
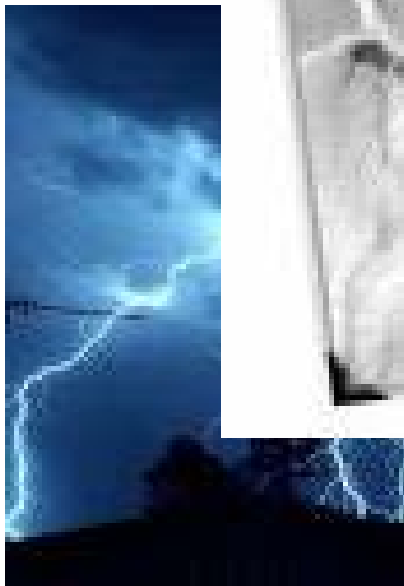


# **ANIMAL DISASTER PACKET**



**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW AND PREPARE FOR IN ORDER TO KEEP YOUR PET SAFE**

## ***Being Prepared in Case of Disaster***

Our pets depend on us for their safety and well-being. Here's how you can be prepared to protect your pets when disaster strikes.

### **Have a Safe Place to Take Your Pets**

Howard County Government recognizes the importance of sheltering pets during a disaster. If disaster shelters are opened by Howard County, pet friendly shelters will be designated and advertised. Basic supplies will be available to pet owners to help with the housing and maintenance of the pet. It will still be the owner's responsibility to provide the daily care for the animal. In addition, Howard County Animal Control can also assist pet owners during a disaster event by taking temporary custody of the animal until the event is over.

Red Cross disaster shelters cannot accept pets because of states' health and safety regulations and other considerations. Service animals that assist people with disabilities are the only animals allowed in Red Cross shelters. Do not wait until disaster strikes to do your research and plan ahead.

### **Do not wait until disaster strikes to do your research.**

- Contact hotels and motels outside your immediate area to check policies on accepting pets and restrictions on number, size, and species. Ask if "no pet" policies could be waived in an emergency. Keep a list of "pet friendly" places, including phone numbers, with other disaster information and supplies. If you have notice of an impending disaster, call ahead for reservations.
- Ask friends, relatives, or others outside the affected area whether they could shelter your animals. If you have more than one pet, they may be more comfortable if kept together, but be prepared to house them separately.
- Prepare a list of boarding facilities and veterinarians who could shelter animals in an emergency; include 24-hour phone numbers.
- Ask local animal shelters if they provide emergency shelter or foster care for pets in a disaster. Animal shelters may be overburdened caring for the animals they already have as well as those displaced by a disaster, so this should be your last resort.

### **Assemble a Portable Pet Disaster Supplies Kit**

Whether you are away from home for a day or a week, you'll need essential supplies. Keep items in an accessible place and store them in sturdy containers that can be carried easily (duffle bags, covered trash containers, etc.). Your pet disaster supplies kit should include:

- Medications and medical records (stored in a waterproof container) and a first aid kit.
- Sturdy leashes, harnesses, and/or carriers to transport pets safely and ensure that your animals can't escape. The carrier or crate should be large enough for your pet to stand comfortably, turn around and lie down.
- Current photos of your pets in case they get lost.
- Food, potable water, bowls, cat litter/pan, and can opener. You should have enough supplies for at least five (5) days for each pet.
- Information on feeding schedules, medical conditions, behavior problems, and the name and number of your veterinarian in case you have to foster or board your pets.
- Pet beds and toys, if easily transportable.

## Don't Forget ID

Your pet should be wearing up-to-date identification at all times. This includes adding your current cell phone number to your pet's tag. It may also be a good idea to include the phone number of a friend or relative outside your immediate area—if your pet is lost, you'll want to provide a number on the tag that will be answered even if you're out of your home. HCAC recommends that you also **have your pet microchipped in advanced**. This is a permanent ID. If your pet becomes lost or is separated from you, this may be the only way your can be reunited with your pet. When registering the chip make sure you supply an emergency contact person.

# Your Disaster Pet Supply Kit Should Include

Every member of your family should know what he or she needs to take when you evacuate. You also need to prepare supplies for your pet. Stock up on non-perishables well ahead of time, and have everything ready to go at a moment's notice. Keep everything accessible, stored in sturdy containers (duffel bags, covered trash containers, etc.) that can be carried easily.

1. Pet First Aid Kit
  - ▶ Gauze
  - ▶ Eye wash
  - ▶ Antibiotic cream
  - ▶ Betadine
  - ▶ Vet wrap or ace bandage
2. Water (average of 1 gallon per day per pet)
3. Dry and canned food. Have enough for at least 5 days. You may not have access to electricity so don't forget a manual can opener.
4. Flashlight & Batteries.
5. Blankets/treats/toys.
6. Collar/leash/harness. Make sure your pet wears identification at all times. Include an emergency contact phone number.
7. Disinfectant and paper towels. Don't forget "poop bags" to clean up after your animals waste.
8. Cat litter & pan (disposable is ideal).
9. Ziploc bag with:
  - ▶ Contact information for family and friends
  - ▶ Pet medications. Include instructions on medications.
  - ▶ Photo of you and your pet.
  - ▶ Vet records (proof of shot records may be required at boarding facilities).
  - ▶ List of local veterinarians, 24 emergency care veterinarian, list of local pet friendly hotels and list of area boarding facilities.

- Carrier or crate. The carrier or crate should be large enough for your pet to stand comfortably, turn around and lie down.

An evacuation order may come, or a disaster may strike, when you're at work or out of the house. Make arrangements well in advance for a trusted neighbor to take your pets and meet you at a specified location. Be sure the person is comfortable with your pets and your pets are familiar with him/her, knows where your animals are likely to be, knows where your disaster supplies are kept and has a key to your home.

## **LOCAL ANIMAL SHELTERS**

PLEASE CALL FOR SPECIFIC ANIMAL POLICIES.

<b><u>Anne Arundel County Animal Control</u></b> 411 Maxwell Frye Rd. Millersville, MD 21108 410-222-8900	<b>Baltimore County Humane Society</b> 1601 Nicodemus Rd Reisterstown, MD 21136 410-833-8848
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<p>Anne Arundel County SPCA  1815 Bay Ridge Ave  Annapolis, MD 21403  410-268-4388</p>	<p>Defenders of Animal Rights  14412 Old York Rd  Phoenix, MD 21131  410-527-1466</p>
<p><b><i>Baltimore City Animal Control</i></b>  301 Stockholm Street  Baltimore, MD 21230  410-396-4688</p>	<p><b>Maryland SPCA</b>  3300 Falls Rd  Baltimore, MD 21211  410-235-8826</p>
<p><b><i>Baltimore County Animal Control</i></b>  13800 Manor Rd.  Baldwin, MD 21013  410-887-5961</p>	<p><b>Carroll County Humane Society</b>  2517 Littlestown Pike (Rt. 97)  Westminster, MD 21158  410-848-4810</p>
<p>Frederick County Animal Control  1832 Rosemont Ave.  Frederick MD 21702   301-694-1546</p>	<p><b>Days End Farm Horse Rescue</b>  15856 Frederick Rd\  Lisbon, MD 21765  301-854-5037/410-442-1564</p>
<p><b>Harford County Humane Society</b>  2208 Connelly Rd  Fallston, MD 21047   <b>410-836-1090</b></p>	<p>Montgomery Co. Humane Society/  Animal Control  14645 Rothgeb Dr  Rockville, MD 20850   240-773-5960</p>
<p><b><i>Howard County Animal Control</i></b>  8576 Davis Rd  Columbia, MD 21045   410-313-2780</p>	<p><b>Prince Georges County Animal Control</b>  8311 D'Arcy Rd  Forestville, MD 20747   301-499-8300</p>

# Emergency Resource List

This list is not all-inclusive please do additional resource

## ***Area Boarding & Kennel Facilities***

- |  |              |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Advanced Veterinary Complex, Reisterstown | 410-883-0500 |
| 2. Circle Kennels, Woodbine                  | 410-442-0015 |
| 3. Country Kennels, Mt. Airy                 | 410-795-5544 |
| 4. Country Vet Clinic, Ellicott City         | 410-768-3620 |
| 5. Huffard Animal Hospital, Pasadena         | 410-768-3620 |
| 6. Noah's Ark, Millersville                  | 410-795-1957 |
| 7. Shady Spring, Woodbine                    | 410-795-1957 |
| 8. PetHotel (Petsmart), Columbia             | 410-312-4890 |
| 9. Preston Country Club for Pets, Columbia   | 301-596-PETS |

## ***Pet Friendly Hotel Chains***

- |                              |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Best Western              | 1-800-528-1234 |
| 2. Chase/Choice/Comfort Inn  | 1-800-228-5150 |
| 3. Days Inn                  | 1-800-329-7466 |
| 4. Extended stay America     | 1-800-398-7829 |
| 5. Holiday Inn               | 1-800-465-4329 |
| 6. Howard Johnson            | 1-800-446-4656 |
| 7. LaQuinta Inns             | 1-866-725-1661 |
| 8. Loews Hotels              | 1-800-235-6397 |
| 9. Motel 6                   | 1-800-466-8356 |
| 10. Radisson/Tremont Hotels  | 1-800-333-3333 |
| 11. Red Roof Inn             | 1-800-843-7663 |
| 12. Resident Inn by Marriott | 1-800-228-9290 |
| 13. Sheraton/Westin          | 1-800-325-3535 |

## ***Area Pharmacies for Pets***

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Cape Apothecary, Annapolis              | 410-757-3522   |
| 2. Professional Arts Pharmacy, Baltimore   | 1-800-832-9285 |
| 3. Kaye's Pharmacy, Baltimore              | 410-665-5192   |
| 4. Smeeta's Integrative Pharmacy, Highland | 301-854-9095   |

## ***Poison Information***

- |                                |                |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. National Poison Hotline     | 1-888-232-8870 |
| 2. ASPCA Animal Poison Control | 1-800-548-2423 |

## ***Micro-chip Registers***

- |            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| AVID       | 1-800-336-AVID |
| Home Again | 1-800-252-7894 |

# **Emergency Preparedness for All Pets**

**Remember that your other pets will need to be evacuated as well as cats and dogs.**

## **Caring for Birds in an Emergency**

Birds should be transported in a secure travel cage or carrier. In cold weather, wrap a blanket over the carrier and warm up the car before placing birds inside. During warm weather, carry a plant mister to mist the birds' feathers periodically. Do not put water inside the carrier during transport. Provide a few slices of fresh fruits and vegetables with high water content. Have a photo for identification and leg bands. If the carrier does not have a perch, line it with paper towels and change them frequently. Try to keep the carrier in a quiet area. Do not let the birds out of the cage or carrier.

## **Reptiles**

Snakes can be transported in a pillowcase but they must be transferred to more secure housing when they reach the evacuation site. If your snakes require frequent feedings, carry food with you. Take a water bowl large enough for soaking as well as a heating pad. When transporting house lizards, follow the same directions as for birds.

## **Pocket Pets**

Small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, gerbils, etc.) should be transported in secure carriers/cages suitable for maintaining the animals while sheltered. Take bedding materials, food bowls, and water bottles.

## **Fish**

In most situations fish will need to be sheltered in place. Make sure you have “vacation suppressed food” on hand. This will allow you to leave the fish with a food source for short-term emergencies.

**Whenever possible take the cage that your animal is typically housed in. This will make your pet feel safer and less stressed.**

**If your pet is lost during a disaster event, contact your local Animal Control agency and surrounding Animal Control agencies. Remember that animals that are frightened or stressed behave differently and can travel great distances.**

# Livestock Preparedness

Disaster preparedness is important for all animals, but it is particularly important for livestock because of the animals' size and their shelter and transportation needs. Disasters can happen anywhere and can take many different forms, from barn fires to hazardous materials spills to propane line explosions, and train derailments—all of which may necessitate evacuation. It is imperative that you be prepared to protect your livestock, whether by evacuating or by sheltering in place.

## Sheltering in Place

If evacuation is not possible, a decision must be made whether to confine large animals to an available shelter on your farm or leave them out in pastures. Owners may believe that their animals are safer inside barns, but in many circumstances, confinement takes away the animals' ability to protect themselves. This decision should be based on the type of disaster and the soundness and location of the sheltering building.

Survey your property for the best location for animal sheltering. If your pasture area meets the following criteria, your large animals may be better off out in the pasture than being evacuated:

- No exotic (non-native) trees, which uproot easily
- No overhead power lines or poles
- No debris or sources of blowing debris
- No barbed wire fencing (woven wire fencing is best)
- Not less than one acre in size (if less than an acre, your livestock may not be able to avoid blowing debris).

If your pasture area does not meet these criteria, you should evacuate. Whether you evacuate or shelter in place, make sure that you have adequate and safe fencing or pens to separate and group animals appropriately. Work with your state department of agriculture and county extension service. If your animals cannot be evacuated, these agencies may be able to provide on-farm oversight. Contact them well in advance to learn their capabilities and the most effective communication procedure. **If evacuating in Howard County, make sure you notify Animal Control that you are sheltering in place.**

## Evacuation Planning

- The leading causes of death of large animals in hurricanes and similar events are collapsed barns, dehydration, electrocution, and accidents resulting from fencing failure. If you own farm animals, you should take precautions to protect them from these hazards, no matter what the disaster potential for your area.
- Evacuate animals as soon as possible. Be ready to leave once the evacuation is ordered. In a slowly evolving disaster, such as a hurricane, leave no later than 72 hours before anticipated landfall, especially if you will be hauling a high profile trailer such as a horse trailer. Remember: Even a fire truck fully loaded with water is considered "out of service" in winds exceeding 40 mph. If there are already high winds, it may not be possible to evacuate safely.



- Arrange for a place to shelter your animals. Plan ahead and work within your community to establish safe shelters for farm animals. Potential facilities include fairgrounds, other farms, racetracks, humane societies, convention centers, and any other safe and appropriate facilities you can find. Survey your community and potential host communities along your planned evacuation route.
- Set up safe transportation. Trucks, trailers, and other vehicles suitable for transporting livestock (appropriate for transporting each specific type of animal) should be available, along with experienced handlers and drivers.
- Take all your disaster supplies with you or make sure they will be available at your evacuation site. You should have or be able to readily obtain feed, water, veterinary supplies, handling equipment, tools, and generators if necessary.
- If your animals are sheltered off your property, make sure they remain in the groupings they are used to. Also, be sure they are securely contained and sheltered from the elements if necessary, whether in cages, fenced-in areas, or buildings.

### **Farm Disaster Kit**

Make a disaster kit so you have supplies on hand in the event of a disaster. Place the kit in a central location and let everyone know where it is. Check the contents regularly to ensure fresh and complete supplies. Include the following items, then add items that you use every day:

- Current list of all animals, including their location and records of feeding, vaccinations, and tests. Make this information available at various locations on the farm. Make sure that you have proof of ownership for all animals.
- Supplies for temporary identification of your animals, such as plastic neckbands and permanent markers to label your animals with your name, address, and telephone number.
- Basic first aid kit.
- Handling equipment such as halters, cages, and appropriate tools for each kind of animal.
- Water, feed, and buckets. Tools and supplies needed for sanitation.
- Disaster equipment such as a cell phone, flashlights, portable radios, and batteries.
- Other safety and emergency items for your vehicles and trailers.