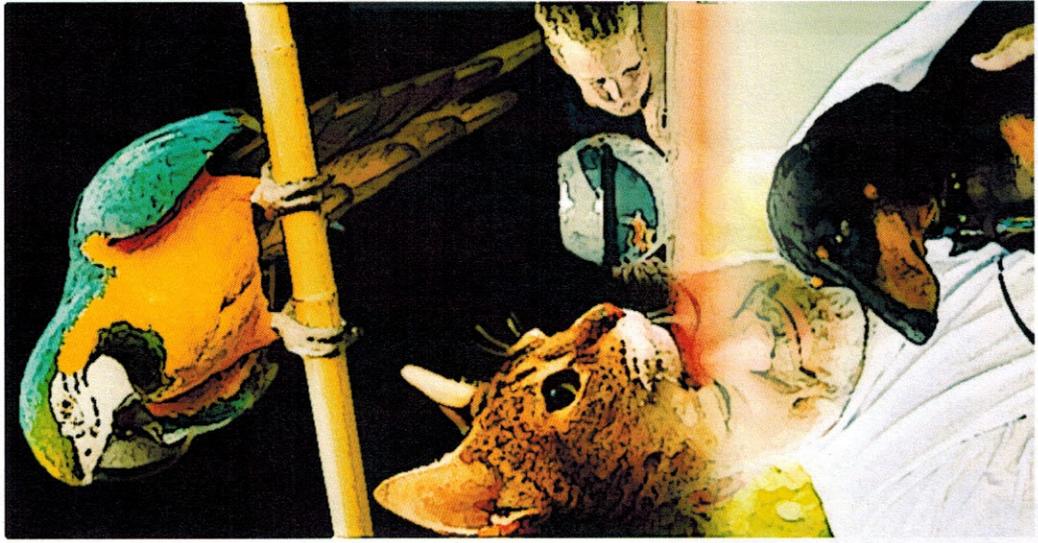




DISASTER PREPAREDNESS FOR PET OWNERS



Pets are family too!

Seattle Office of Emergency
Management

Getting Ready

Getting Connected

Getting Strong



Seattle Office of
Emergency
Management

Seattle Office of Emergency Management
105 5th Avenue S., Suite 300
Seattle, WA 98104
206-233-5076
www.seattle.gov/emergency

SEATTLE
animal shelter

Seattle Animal Shelter
2061 15th Ave. West
Seattle, WA 98119
Customer service: 206-386-PETS
www.seattleanimalshelter.org

PET PREPAREDNESS

All responsible pet owners need to think about how they will take care of their animals when disaster strikes. The same advice for human preparedness goes for preparing for your pets. Be prepared to take care of yourself, your family (including pets) and your neighbors for a minimum of three days without any help from the City resources.

For health and space reasons, pets are not allowed in public emergency shelters. However, in most states, trained guide dogs for persons with disabilities will be allowed to stay in emergency shelters with their owners.

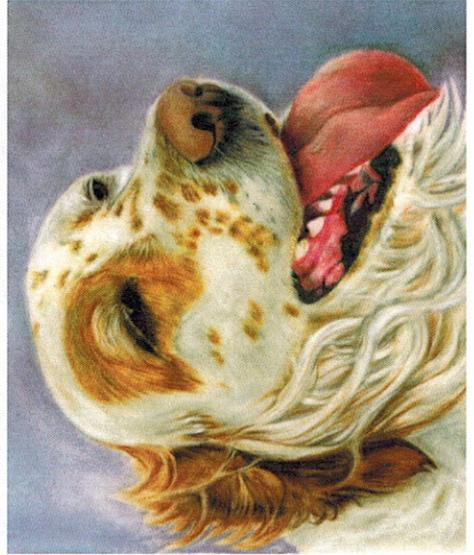
PETS ARE FAMILY TOO!

Make arrangements for your pets as part of your household disaster planning. If you must evacuate your home take your pets with you.

BEFORE THE DISASTER

BEFORE THE DISASTER

- Store enough food and water to be self-sufficient for a minimum of 7 to 10 days.
- Prepare an evacuation kit for your pet. The kit should include:
 - An unbreakable dish
 - Medications and instructions (enough for 7 to 10 days if possible)
 - A leash and pet carrier
 - Your pet's veterinary records
- For housing purposes, cat carriers should be large enough to hold a small litter pan and two small dishes and still allow your cat enough room to lie down comfortably or stand to use the litter pan. Dog kennels or collapsible cages should be large enough to hold two non-spill bowls and still allow enough room for your dog to stand and turn around. For added assurance, clearly label each carrier with your identification and contact information.
- Consider having a permanent microchip implanted in your pet; this ID cannot be lost or removed.
- Make arrangements with a neighbor or a relative that lives nearby to care for your pet in the event you are unable to return home immediately following a disaster. Identify hotels and motels nearby that allow pets.



PET PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

Assemble a kit that is easy to carry and easy to get to! Prepare to be self-sufficient for a minimum of 7 to 10 days, longer if possible.

- Pet carrier or cage for each pet
- Food/water with non-spill bowls
- Manual can opener
- Medication and dosing
- Pet first-aid kit
- Vaccination, medical records
- Current photo of pet with family
- Regular and emergency veterinary information.
- Cat litter box and litter
- Newspaper
- Plastic bags for waste disposal
- Paper towels
- Disinfectant
- Leash and collar/harness
- Blankets/towels
- Toys and treats

Pet First Aid Kit

- Large and small self-cling bandages (bandage that stretches and sticks to itself but not to fur—available at pet stores and from pet-supply catalogs)
- Scissors (with blunt ends)
- Tweezers
- Q-Tips
- Antibiotic Ointment
- Hydrogen Peroxide
- Elastic tape
- Eye wash (saline)
- Ear cleaning solutions
- K-Y Jelly

- Make sure your pet's ID tag is up to date with accurate information. Have an extra set of ID tags in our disaster kit, just in case your pet loses their collar.
- Secure bird cages and fish tanks. They can move and break during a disaster, especially an earthquake. Secure fish tanks with industrial strength Velcro and have the tanks on low stands or tables. Tighten the latch on your bird cage so that the door cannot be shaken open easily.
- When organizing your neighborhood to help each other in disaster, include pet preparedness and response in your neighborhood plan. For more information on organizing your neighborhood, contact the Seattle Office of Emergency Management at 206-233-5076.



DURING AND AFTER THE DISASTER

During an earthquake:

If the ground starts shaking, do not try to hold onto your pet during the shaking. Animals will instinctively protect themselves and hide where they are safe.

After a disaster:

- Be patient with your pets after a disaster. Pets get stressed just as people do and may need to readjust.
- Reintroduce food in small servings, gradually working up to full portions if animals have been without food for a prolonged period of time.
- Allow uninterrupted rest/sleep for all animals to recover from the trauma and stress.
- Familiar scents and landmarks may have changed, and this can confuse your animals. Release cats, dogs, and other small animals indoors only. If allowed to go outside unsupervised, they may become injured on debris or become frightened and run away.
- If you have outdoor pets, you should consider bringing them inside after an earthquake. Keep them inside until the threat of aftershocks has disappeared and your pet has had time to calm down.

- Release birds and reptiles only if necessary and only when they are calm and in an enclosed room.
- If you must leave for a short time, make sure your pet is in a secure place with plenty of water and food. Return daily to check on your pet.
- Listen to the radio for information on the location of emergency shelters. Depending on the extent of the damage, it may take several days to get emergency shelters up and running. That is why you need to plan to be self-sufficient for several days following a major disaster.
- If you lose your pet, go to the Seattle Animal Shelter and Animal Control DAILY to see if your pet has been found! Take your photo and pet records with you so that you can be easily reunited with your pet.
- Post lost animal notices and notify local veterinarians and your neighbors of any lost animals. Visit www.missingpet.net for lost and found.

