



THOUSANDS OF PETS ARE ORPHANED EACH YEAR DUE TO THE DEATH OR DISABILITY OF THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS. 2ND CHANCE 4 PETS FOCUSES ITS ENTIRE EFFORTS ON ADDRESSING THIS LONG UNRECOGNIZED ISSUE.

2nd Chance 4 Pets dedicates this newsletter to the individuals who donate their time helping us save pets and provide peace of mind to pet owners.

Together we prevent pets from being left homeless due to the death or disability of the pet owners who care for them. Thank you for recognizing this important effort.

#### CONTACT US!

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Photos courtesy of Focus Point Pictures.



## ARE YOU AND YOUR PETS READY FOR AN EMERGENCY?

Hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires, flash-floods and earthquakes all have the potential to devastate neighborhoods, and entire cities. If a disaster swept through your area, does your evacuation plan include arrangements for your animal companions?

Passed in 2006, the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS Act) requires that local and state governments to include pets in their evacuation plans. Translated, it means pet rescue centers must be provided along with human rescue centers. "Never again" predicted the late U.S. Representative Tom Lantos, who co-sponsored the PETS Act, "will Americans with disabilities or with cherished household pets have to choose between their own safety and the animals they depend on."

Those of us with pets must take it upon ourselves to plan for the safety of our pets. As part of our planning efforts, it is crucial to have an emergency kit for both humans and animals along with a foolproof evacuation plan.

### Evacuation and Transportation

In the first few moments after an emergency, time is critical. Planning ahead will ensure a smooth and efficient evacuation. If severe weather is approaching, don't wait until mandatory evacuation orders are issued. Pre-planning includes contacting hotels, family, and friends outside of your area to determine where you and your pets can be safe.

It's important to maintain an up-to-date list of lodging options that accept pets. Check with friends and relatives to make sure that they will welcome you and your pets during an emergency. Additionally, **ensure that a neighbor can evacuate your pets safely if you are out of town during an emergency.** Provide this neighbor with a key to your home, written pet care instructions and the location of your pets' emergency kit.

Several animal shelters in storm-impacted areas set up evacuation sites. In the event of a disaster, animal shelters in Gainesville, Florida are ready to accept animals displaced from other parts of the state. The Houston SPCA starts planning for storm season in February even though the storm season does not officially begin until June 1st.

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Check with your local animal shelters and Red Cross to determine what local evacuation plans are available. When you identify a shelter, determine if the temporary shelter will have a space limit, where it is located, and what requirements they have (most will require proof that your pets are up-to-date with all vaccinations).

Consult the yellow pages or [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com) for animal shelters near you. If you own a car, determine the quickest route out of town. Make sure your car is in good working condition. When severe weather is forecasted, keep your gas tank full so you and your pets are not stranded. If you rely on public transportation, network with other pet owners, family, friends, or neighbors for options.

When fleeing during a storm, keep pets out of open truck beds as animals can be thrown at sudden turns or abrupt stops. Loud noises scare some animals and wind-tossed fragments can harm them. Tying animals down can pose serious problems. "If you must transport a dog or other animal in the truck's rear, use a crate," says Dr. Marnie Duplissis of the McClintock Animal Care Center in Tempe, Arizona, "Anchor the crate securely and place the animal inside."

### Identification

Make sure each pet wears a collar with current ID. "Microchips are strongly recommended," says Bari Mears, president of the Pets911 Auxiliary in Phoenix. "Use microchips as secondary ID and maintain current contact information for the microchips." Mears suggests using both a tag and a microchip for most pets. On the pets' collars, include the phone number of a family member or friend not in the disaster area that will be able to locate you if necessary.

It is important to maintain up-to-date records for your pets including photos, ownership and/or adoption certificates, veterinarian information, immunization records, prescriptions, surgery history, special dietary requirements and special needs. 2nd Chance 4 Pets includes a workbook on our website to help document care instructions for your pets. The workbook is free and can be printed directly off our website [www.2ndchance4pets.org](http://www.2ndchance4pets.org).

As part of your pets' emergency kit, prepare all medication with dosage instructions and enough medication to last several days in case help is delayed. Use our emergency ID cards downloadable from our website and also found on the next page of this newsletter.



Emergencies, by definition, can occur without advanced warning. Preparedness can ensure that both you and your pets will be safe and secure should disaster strike. The following checklist includes items that are necessary to ensure safety for your pets.

### PET EMERGENCY KIT CHECKLIST

- Crate or carrier large enough for your pet to stand up and move around in and a sheet for cover.
- Current photos and licenses to prove ownership.
- Medical records, proof of shots being current
- Two-week supply of food. If your pets eat only canned food, include a can opener.
- Three-day supply of bottled water.
- One-month supply of medicine, if applicable.
- Non-spill feeding bowls.
- Cat litter and pan.
- Leashes, harnesses
- Plastic bags and newspaper for waste disposal.
- Blankets and/or towels.
- Paper towels.
- Combs/brushes.
- Disinfectants.
- Radio, flashlight and batteries.
- Favorite toys.



## Emergency Contact Information for My Pets

In case of an emergency, it's critical that others know how to contact you or someone who can help with the care of your pets. Please fill out the form below and post the form in a location in your home where it can easily be seen.

### My Information:

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate phone numbers \_\_\_\_\_

Pets in our home \_\_\_\_\_

Location of leashes, food, medicine \_\_\_\_\_

### Veterinarian Information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

After-hours emergency number \_\_\_\_\_

### Emergency Pet Caregivers Information:

Name of caregiver \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Name of alternate caregiver \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_



## THANK YOU FOR RECOGNIZING THE WORK WE DO TO HELP ANIMALS!

Including **2nd Chance 4 Pets** in your will is one of the most commonly known ways in which to make a lasting gift to charity—and one of the simplest. After ensuring that your family is taken care of, you can name 2nd Chance 4 Pets in your will so that our organization receives a gift from your estate.

### How do I leave a gift to 2nd Chance 4 Pets?

You should first decide what type of legacy you wish to leave to 2nd Chance 4 Pets. Let your attorney know what you want to do. He or she will need to know that the following words are typically used in wills to describe 2nd Chance 4 Pets: "2nd Chance 4 Pets, a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of California and having its principal mailing location at 1484 Pollard Rd, No 444, Los Gatos, CA 95032."

### Can I leave my pets to the care of 2nd Chance 4 Pets?

Our organization cannot be responsible for the care of your pets. However, we can provide you and your attorney with information to help you determine the most appropriate means to ensure that your pets will be cared for should they outlive you.

Thank you for recognizing our important efforts. Together, we will help save pets' lives, bring peace of mind to pet owners, and reduce the burden on animal shelters and rescue groups.



## THREE IMPORTANT STEPS: PLANNING FOR THE POSSIBILITY THAT YOUR PETS MIGHT OUTLIVE YOU



### STEP 1: Identify Caregivers

Identify people who would be willing to care for your pets in the hours, days, or weeks after an emergency as well as those who would be willing to adopt your pets should you die or become incapacitated. If you cannot find friends, relatives or neighbors to serve as potential caregivers, local pet sitters and members of animal rescue groups may be able to help.

If you do not identify a caregiver for your pets and your pets outlive you, a complete stranger may have to determine if and how your pets will continue to receive care.



### STEP 2: Prepare Written Instructions

Prepare written instructions outlining how your pets should be cared for. How do you want your pets to live—in another household or in a sanctuary? What kind of special care do your pets require? Do you want your pets to stay together?

To make sure your wishes are followed, you must document your instructions and let others know where these instructions are located.

On the front page of our website, download and print a free copy of our guide that will help you document care instructions for your pets.



### STEP 3: Set Up a Fund

You currently pay for food, supplies and medical care for your pets. Should anything happen to you, these expenses will still need to be funded. Consider setting aside funds to cover temporary or permanent care of your pets.

Professionals that can help you include estate planners, financial planners and your life insurance company.

