

ARE YOU AND YOUR PETS READY FOR AN EMERGENCY?

Do you have an evacuation plan and an emergency kit for both humans and animals?

Local, state and federal agencies are exploring new and more efficient emergency preparedness plans to reduce the number of casualties and displaced residents. However, as the Katrina disaster revealed, emergency evacuation, rescue, and shelter strategies may not include plans for our pets. Therefore, those of us with pets as part of our families must take it upon ourselves to ensure the safety of our entire family.



Emergency ID cards and wallet emergency contact cards are available from 2nd Chance 4 Pets at www.2ndchance4pets.org. These cards, when posted in your home and carried with you in your wallet, will alert others to the presence of pets in your home as well as who to call to take care of them in case of an emergency.

2nd Chance 4 Pets is a volunteer-run, nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing the number of pets unnecessarily euthanized due to the death or incapacity of the human companions who care for them.

PET EMERGENCY KIT CHECKLIST

- Crate or carrier large enough for your pet to stand up and move around in and a waterproof sheet for cover
- Current photos and licenses to prove ownership
- Two-week supply of food (plus a can opener if your pets eat canned food)
- Three-day supply of bottled water
- One-month supply of medicine, if applicable, plus medical records
- Non-spill feeding bowls
- Cat litter and pan
- Leashes
- Plastic bats and newspaper for waste disposal
- Blankets or towels
- Paper towels
- Brushes and combs
- Disinfectants
- Radio, flashlight and batteries
- Favorite toys

Many organizations have excellent information available on emergency preparedness for companion animals. This particular checklist is reprinted courtesy of 2nd Chance 4 Pets' Newsletter, *Companion*, Winter 2005.