

Hurricane checklist for pets

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Your plan for hurricane season: what to do before it starts, at a watch, at a warning and after the storm, and where you will go with your pets.

Hurricane watch: hurricane conditions are possible; issued 48 hours before tropical-storm-force winds. **Hurricane warning:** they are expected; issued 36 hours before, when preparations should be complete. If officials tell you to evacuate, go, and take your pets.

Your household

Household

Address

Evacuation zone

Where you checked it (county or state website)

Checked on

Your pets

Name	Species, breed, color	Microchip number	Chip registry and phone	Medicines and needs

Before the season (Atlantic: June 1; Eastern Pacific: May 15)

- ☐ Evacuation zone looked up and written above
- ☐ Places that take pets chosen, in different directions
- ☐ Microchip registered in your name, your phone number up to date
- ☐ A buddy with a key who can take your pets if you are away
- ☐ Pet emergency kit packed (see our kit checklist)
- ☐ Evacuation routes learned and practiced with the household and pets
- ☐ Local officials asked which shelters open this year and if they take pets
- ☐ Collars with ID tags; rabies certificate and vaccination records copied
- ☐ Pets used to their carriers and to rides in the car
- ☐ Alerts set up: the FEMA app or your local alerts

When a hurricane watch is issued (about 48 hours before storm winds)

- ☐ Pets brought indoors
- ☐ Your buddy told the plan, and where the kit and carriers are
- ☐ Phone charged, backup charger packed
- ☐ You know where each pet hides
- ☐ Pet-friendly hotel called and booked; asked if a no-pets rule can be waived
- ☐ Kit checked: food, water and medicines fresh
- ☐ Car tank filled
- ☐ Leave early if you can: don't wait for a mandatory order

When a hurricane warning is issued (about 36 hours before storm winds)

- ☐ Told to evacuate: leave right away, with your pets
- ☐ The kit, this plan and the records in the car
- ☐ No pet left behind, and never one chained outdoors
- ☐ Dogs on a leash, cats in carriers, an ID tag on every pet
- ☐ A note left: when you left and where you are going
- ☐ Staying home: an interior room with few windows, pets and supplies in it

 **Pettify** pettifyapp.com

Pettify keeps your vet, an emergency contact and the microchip number in your pet's profile, and a buddy you invite sees the same pet.

Personal plan from NWS, Ready.gov, FEMA, CDC, Red Cross, ASPCA and Humane World for Animals. Local officials decide evacuations: follow them.



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Household _____

Phone numbers

Local emergency management office, phone or website

Your vet and phone

Vet or animal hospital near where you will stay

Buddy with a key: name, phone

Contact outside the area: name, phone

Hotel booked: name, phone

Where you can go with your pets

Friend, hotel, boarding, vet or shelter	Direction and route	Phone	Pets allowed: number, size, species	Called on

After the storm

- ☐ Back home only when officials say it is safe
- ☐ Dogs on a leash and cats in carriers, even indoors, while you check the damage
- ☐ Fences and gates checked; familiar smells may be gone and pets can get lost
- ☐ Watch for downed power lines, snakes and other wildlife
- ☐ House and yard checked for sharp objects, roofing nails, broken glass, spilled chemicals and exposed wiring
- ☐ No playing in or drinking floodwater
- ☐ Vet called if you see signs of stress, discomfort or illness
- ☐ A pet missing: the microchip company called, local shelters and animal control asked

Where to find shelters and alerts

1. Open shelters: the FEMA app, or text SHELTER and your ZIP code to 43362 (FEMA; standard text rates apply). The Red Cross Emergency App finds shelters too.
2. Which shelters take pets: your county's emergency management office. Most public shelters allow only service animals (Ready.gov).
3. Active storms: the National Hurricane Center, hurricanes.gov. Your evacuation zone: your county or state emergency management website.

Notes

Where you meet if you are separated, what your buddy should do, anything else

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