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## Hurricane Preparation For Your Pet Before a weather emergency ... **Plan ahead!**

**Florida hurricane season runs from June 1 through November 30**

<https://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/en/residents/stay-safe/storm>

<https://www.baynews9.com/fl/tampa/weather/hurricane-center>

- 🐾 List survival items for your pets – medications, food, and other various supplies.
- 🐾 Note that some medications cannot be dispensed without your pet's bloodwork being current. Check with your vet if you should come in for lab work.
- 🐾 We can fill your prescription through our online pharmacy and it can be shipped anywhere in the United States. Click through on our home page [www.dalemabryanimalhospital.com](http://www.dalemabryanimalhospital.com)
- 🐾 **Microchip Your Pet!** (and make sure your contact information is *current* with the microchip company and your vet)
- 🐾 Make sure your pets have been vaccinated within the past 12 months:

<b>Dogs</b>	<b>Cats</b>
Rabies	Rabies
DA2PPV	FVRCP
Bordetella	
Leptospirosis (highly recommended)	
K9 Influenza = CIV H3N8 and CIV H3N2 (highly recommended)	
- 🐾 Use other forms of ID for your pet like collars with tags and names on carriers.
- 🐾 Photograph each of your pets and include these with important papers. A picture of you and your pet together will help you document ownership and allow others to assist you in identifying your pet.
- 🐾 Print out important contact information/records. You might not have online access.
- 🐾 Download **PetDesk App** and enroll with the email address we have on file for you. This will give you online access to your pet's vaccinations and reminders.
- 🐾 Plan out where you and your pet will go. Red Cross shelters do not accept pets. You should call family and friends on higher ground. If you are located in a flood plain area, the decision to evacuate will depend on the category of the storm. In the case of a hurricane, always prepare for one category higher than the one being forecast. For more information about flood plains, call the Southwest Florida Water Management District at 1-800-423-1476.
- 🐾 Plan evacuation routes to veterinary hospitals, boarding kennels, family or friends well in advance of the storm.

- 🐾 There are many more pets than boarding spaces in Hillsborough County. Only use pet shelters if no other choices are available.
- 🐾 Pets on medication should be sheltered at a veterinary hospital, if space is available. It is a good idea to call ahead and determine availability at a shelter or veterinarian nearest you.
- 🐾 If boarding at a hospital, expect to pay standard fees– either boarding or hospitalization.
- 🐾 **DO NOT LEAVE PETS AT HOME ALONE.** It could be days or possibly weeks before you could return home! They cannot take care of themselves!!!! You may want to put stickers at the front of your home stating “Evacuated with Pets” to help keep rescue workers informed.
- 🐾 The PETS Act authorizes FEMA to provide rescue, care, shelter, and essential needs for individuals *with* household pets and service animals, and to the household pets and animals themselves following a major disaster or emergency.  
<https://www.avma.org/KB/Resources/Reference/disaster/Pages/PETS-Act-FAQ.aspx>

## During the storm

All pets should have: (also required by shelters)

- Proper ID collar, rabies tag and microchip information. List of unique markings.
- Picture of you with pet(s).
- Proper ID (labels) on all belongings.
- Carrier or cage and bedding for each pet.
- Extra collars & leashes (collars/harness they cannot pull out of when in panic mode).
- Ample food and water supply – 2 weeks (Keep at least three days of food and water in airtight, waterproof containers). Treats.
- Water and food bowls.
- Any necessary/current medications – 2 weeks supply.
- Specific care instructions (medical or behavioral), vaccination and medical records.
- Newspapers, poop bags, plastic trash bags for handling waste and/or kitty litter.
- Other items that may be needed include toys for comfort, **a first aid kit**, a manual can opener, cat litter, liners and a pan, muzzle if necessary, tee-shirt with your scent on it

## First Aid Kit

- Bandage materials – cotton, gauze, gauze pads, tape, vet-rap
- Hydrogen peroxide
- Anti-bacterial ointment/cream
- Scissors and Tweezers
- Blankets
- Any needed medications
- Activated charcoal
- Veterinarian’s phone number
- Nearest emergency clinic phone number
- Water-proof container to hold these items

<https://dalemabryanimalhospital.com/emergency-and-first-aid>

## After the storm has passed ...Stay informed!

Take caution in allowing your pets outdoors. Familiar scents and landmarks may be altered and your pet could easily become confused and lost. Downed power lines and reptiles brought in with high water could present real dangers to your pet.

- 🐾 Take precautions not to allow your pet to consume food or water which may have become contaminated. <https://dalemabryanimalhospital.com/sickness-from-contaminated-water>
- 🐾 If you are without power, be extremely careful using candles or oil lamps, particularly around pets.
- 🐾 If you have brought plants into your home before a storm, be careful not to allow pets access to them since many ornamental plants are poisonous to animals.  
<http://www.aspca.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control>  
<https://dalemabryanimalhospital.com/poisonous-plants>
- 🐾 If you have lost your pet during the storm, visit Animal Services to help locate your animal(s). Their address is 440 North Falkenburg Road, Tampa, FL 33619.

## Emergency phone numbers:

Animal Services of Hillsborough County	(813) 744-5660
The Humane Society of Tampa Bay	(813) 876-7138
American Red Cross, Tampa Bay Chapter	(813) 348-4820
American Red Cross Disaster Services	(877) 741-1444

## Pet Disaster Planning Hillsborough County

<https://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/en/residents/animals-and-pets/pet-ownership/pet-disaster-planning>

**Pet shelters** will require proof that dogs have been vaccinated during the past 12 months.

<https://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/en/newsroom/2018/08/31/pet-friendly-shelters-true-or-false>

## If your pet has been hurt, call one of the following emergency hospitals:

BluePearl	(813) 933-8944
VEG (Veterinary Emergency Group) – South Tampa	(813) 793-7555

## Some helpful websites:

[www.tampagov.net/police/programs/alert-tampa](http://www.tampagov.net/police/programs/alert-tampa)

<http://www.baynews9.com/content/news/baynews9/weather/klystron-9-radar.html>

<https://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/en/residents/stay-safe>

<https://www.facebook.com/Lostandfoundpetsofhillsboroughcounty/>

## Hotels accepting pets: *(not endorsed by Dale Mabry Animal Hospital)*

[www.petswelcome.com](http://www.petswelcome.com)

[www.petfriendlytravel.com](http://www.petfriendlytravel.com)

[www.dogfriendly.com](http://www.dogfriendly.com)

[www.gopetfriendly.com](http://www.gopetfriendly.com)