

If where you are isn't safe for you, it isn't safe for your animals. Think first about the basics for your pets – food, water and warmth.

Think about having two Emergency Survival Kits for your pets:

Home Kit – contains everything you may need to stay at home in shelter for up to three days.



Evacuation Kit – more portable and lightweight for when you need to leave quickly.

See overleaf for a checklist of recommended contents



Safe Shelter Places



If you need to evacuate you may need to take your pets, it may not be safe to return for several days. **Exotic pets can not be accommodated in emergency shelters** so you could plan for a safe house or animal shelter that you and your pets (or just your pets) can go to.

Remember at most places you'll need to provide veterinary records before they'll accept pets.

Have a practice run

- Practice getting your family and pets to the designated safe place.
- See how quickly you can evacuate and practice it from time to time to see if you can make improvements (remember to try it in the dark, helpful if the emergency event happens at night and there's a power cut).



**Emergency
Plan for Exotic
Pets**

Emergency Items

- ☐ **Food:** Store at least five days of non-perishable pet food (canned or dried) in an airtight container (remember the can opener!).
- ☐ **Water:** Store at least five days of water, additional to your family needs. Animals can drink more water than usual when stressed.
- ☐ **Medicines:** Store any extra medical supplies and special dietary needs or supplements in a waterproof container.
- ☐ **Veterinary/medical records:** Store copies of any medical and vaccination records in a waterproof container. Include your vet's name and phone number.
- ☐ **First Aid Kit:** In addition to your family needs.
- ☐ **Blanket/bedding:** Familiar items, like favourite blanket or toy can help reduce stress for your pets.
- ☐ **Sanitation:** Include pet litter and litter box and any other useful items, like newspapers, paper towels, gloves and household bleach (to dilute).



Identification

- ☐ **Leg ring/tattoo/other identification markings.**
- ☐ **Photograph:** Store a current photograph of your pets in a waterproof container. Also include a photograph of you and your pets together to help prove ownership if you get separated.
- ☐ **Save information online:** For easy access from wherever you are, save all your important information online e.g. mobile phone or web/email.



Equipment

- ☐ **Cage/carrier:** A safe, escape-proof pet carrier in which to both transport and house your pet temporarily. Carriers should be large enough to house your pet comfortably for several days and be coverable with a towel or thin sheet to provide security and shade.
- ☐ **Heating/Lighting:** If your exotic pets rely on heat and light for welfare ensure that you have battery operated equipment, blankets and hot water bottles.