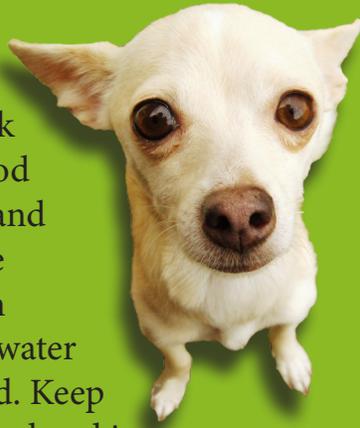


Pet disaster preparedness kit checklist



You know you should stock up on batteries, canned food and bottled water for you and your family. But make sure to count your pets in when calculating the amount of water and food you keep on hand. Keep the following items compiled and in an easy-to-carry container such as a duffel bag or covered storage bin.

- Pet carrier.
- Three-day supply of water.
- Three-day supply of food.
- Pet first-aid kit.
- Special medications your pet needs regularly.
- Veterinarian records.
- Proof of rabies vaccine.
- Spare leash and collar.
- Familiar toys and/or blanket to reduce stress.
- Pet sanitary items (litter box, extra bag of litter, paper towels and trash bags to collect pet waste).
- Current photo and description of your pet to help others identify it if it becomes lost.

Prepare your pet!

License and vaccinate!

Your unlicensed, inside cat that never ventures outside your house might not have a house at all after a tornado. Your un-vaccinated dog might find itself lost and exposed to wild and possibly diseased animals after a wildfire, hurricane or other disaster. Protect Fido and Fluffy for any unplanned emergency by getting them their rabies vaccines and licenses at the Animal Center or any veterinarian's office.

Microchip.

Get one for your pet. It's a permanent form of

identification that enables your lost or stolen pet to be traced back to you from anywhere in the country. Microchips are available at the Animal Center and many veterinarians' offices. Don't forget to make sure your contact information is up to date by calling the center at 352-671-8700.



Plan ahead.

Determine where you will go if evacuation is necessary and include your pets in your evacuation plan. Be sure you're equipped to safely transport your pet and that your destination accepts animals. If your home is unsafe and you have nowhere else to go, Marion County Animal Services hosts a pet-friendly shelter at Vanguard High School, the only county shelter that accepts pets. Be sure you can comply with the shelter parameters:

- Owners must provide proof of rabies vaccinations and county licenses for their pets.
- Birds must have and be in secure cages.
- Owners must stay at Vanguard but will not be housed in the same building as their pets.
- Exotic animals, aggressive dogs or animals weighing more than 80 pounds are not accepted. Make alternative plans in advance.

Keep in touch! Scan the QR code to access our website and like us on Facebook for updates straight to your news feed.



**Marion County
Board of County Commissioners**

Animal Services

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