Disaster Preparedness with Pets



- Are your pets' vaccinations up-to-date? Keep copies of vaccinations and other veterinary records, as well as photos of you with your pets, in your emergency kit.
- Make sure your pets are wearing ID tags and are microchipped and keep all registration info current.
- Create a "go bag" for your pets. Stock enough supplies for about two weeks of use. Pet carrier, pet food and dishes, manual can opener, bottled water, leash, harness, medications, cat litter and box, first aid kit, blankets, newspaper and plastic bags for waste pick up, familiar items such as pet beds, toys and treats (if easily transportable). Rotate goods out as they expire throughout the year.
- Make a list of your pets' feeding schedule, medical and behavior notes, and vet contact info in case you have to foster or board your pets.
- Include your pets in your evacuation drills so they become used to getting into carriers and traveling calmly.
- If you are sheltering in place, remember that pets can become anxious during severe storms or other disasters. Make sure they have a safe space in your home where they can relax. Do not leave them outside during a storm.
- Do not leave your pets behind if you need to evacuate your home. Develop a buddy system with family members or neighbors to care for or evacuate your pets if you are not able to do so.
- Identify location of emergency shelters, but keep in mind that some might not be able to accept pets. Know which friends, relatives, boarding facilities, animal shelters or veterinarians can care for your pets in an emergency. Prepare a list and add contact info to your phone.
- Find out which hotels in the area are pet-friendly, or may waive policies in an emergency. Research sites such as *bringfido.com*, *hotels.petswelcome.com*, *pettravel.com*, *expedia.com/g/rg/pet-friendly-hotels* or *dogtrekker.com*.
- If your pet goes missing during a disaster, please remember to check with your local shelters including the Humane Society of Sonoma County (707) 542-0882 and our Healdsburg shelter (707) 431-3386.

