



**FirstService**  
RESIDENTIAL



# Pet

*Emergency Guide*

**As North America's property management leader, we understand the importance of keeping every member of your family safe—even the furry, feathered or finned ones. Unfortunately, pets are often overlooked when it comes to developing an emergency preparedness plan.**



Our Pet Emergency Preparedness guide was specifically designed to help integrate your pets into your emergency preparedness plan. We've included tips and resources for planning your emergency checklist along with an information sheet about your pet(s) for you to keep on hand and share with your building.

To learn more about how FirstService Residential makes a difference every day with emergency preparation, please visit: [fsresidential.com/new-york](https://fsresidential.com/new-york).

## INCLUDE YOUR PET IN YOUR PLAN

When packing your emergency supply kits, don't forget about your pets' kits! In case of an evacuation, it's important to have everything they need ready to go. Keep the pet kits stored with your family go bags. Turn to page 7 for a detailed pet go bag packing list.



## EVACUATING WITH YOUR PET

In the event of an emergency evacuation, do you know where you will go and how you will get there?



### When planning for an emergency evacuation:

- ▶ See if it's possible for family or friends in another area to house your pet.
- ▶ Find animal-friendly hotels outside of the affected area ahead of time—they will fill up quickly!
- ▶ Talk to your vet, kennel or groomer to see if they can provide a safe haven for your pet during an emergency.
- ▶ Create a go bag for your pet or service animal.
- ▶ Practice evacuation plans to familiarize your pet with the process and increase its comfort level.
- ▶ Know where your pet is likely to hide when scared so you can easily find it during an emergency. Scared pets may try to flee, so be as calm as possible when coaxing it to you.
- ▶ Keep in mind a stressed pet may behave differently than due to that stress; use a muzzle to prevent bites.

## PETS ON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND IN SHELTERS

Pets in carriers are allowed on MTA subways, buses and trains. If an evacuation order is declared, pets too large for carriers will also be allowed, as long as they are muzzled and controlled on a sturdy leash four feet long or shorter. The City will announce when this policy is in effect.

If the City's emergency shelter system is open, legal pets are allowed at all City evacuation centers. Please bring supplies to care for your pet, including food, leashes, a carrier and medication. Don't forget to bring supplies to clean up after your animal. Only legal pets will be allowed. Service animals are always allowed.

## PROPER IDENTIFICATION

Dogs and cats should wear a collar or harness, rabies tag and identification tag with your name, address and phone number. Dogs should also wear a license.

For more information on licensing, call **311 (212-639-9675 for Video Relay Service, or TTY: 212-504-4115).**

Talk to your veterinarian, call **311 (212-639-9675 for Video Relay Service, or TTY: 212-504-4115)**, or visit [nyc.gov](http://nyc.gov) to learn more about how to microchip your pet. A properly registered microchip provides positive identification of your pet if you and are separated.



## LOCAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

### New York City Emergency Management

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/em/ready/get-prepared.page>

### NYC Pet Emergency Plan

[https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/em/downloads/pdf/pets\\_english.pdf](https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/em/downloads/pdf/pets_english.pdf)

### FEMA Information for Pet Owners

[https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1390846777239-dc08e309debe561d866b05ac84daf1ee/pets\\_2014.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1390846777239-dc08e309debe561d866b05ac84daf1ee/pets_2014.pdf)

### Humane Society of New York

<http://humanesocietyny.org/>

## TIPS FOR HANDLING SMALL ANIMALS DURING EMERGENCIES

### Birds

- ▶ Transport birds in small, secure carriers.
- ▶ Try to avoid severe temperature changes. Use a spray bottle for misting your pet in hot weather and a hot water bottle for warming in cold weather.
- ▶ Try to avoid extreme changes in noise. Cover the cage to help your bird stay calm.

### Amphibians/Reptiles

- ▶ Transport amphibians in a water-tight plastic bag or plastic container with ventilation holes.
- ▶ Transport reptiles in a pillowcase, cloth sack or small carrier. Move them into a secure cage as soon as possible.
- ▶ Use a spray bottle to keep pets cool and a heating pad or battery-operated heating lamp to keep pets warm as needed.
- ▶ Try to avoid extreme changes in temperature, lighting and diet.
- ▶ Do not mix species.

### Other Small Animals

Small pets, including hamsters, gerbils, mice, rats, and guinea pigs, can be transported using a covered carrier, cage or secure box. To reduce your small pet's stress, cover the carrier and try to limit severe changes in temperature and noise.



## IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO GET HOME TO YOUR PET

Some emergencies may prevent you from returning home.

To plan for that:

- ▶ Identify a trusted friend, neighbor or pet sitter to care for your pet in your absence. This person should have a set of your house keys, be familiar with your home and pet, know your emergency plan and have your contact information.
- ▶ Put stickers on the main entrances to your home to alert first responders of the number and types of pets inside. Update the stickers every six months. You can order free Rescue Alert stickers from the ASPCA.
- ▶ Keep a collar/harness, leash, carrier and your pet's Go Bag in a place where they can be easily found.



# GO BAG PACKING LIST FOR PETS

- ☐ Pet food.\* If you use wet food, make sure you have pull top cans or a manual can opener on hand.
- ☐ Water.\* Check with your veterinarian to see how much water your pet needs each day.
- ☐ Food, water and dishes for at least three days
- ☐ A recent color photograph of you with your pet, in case you get separated
- ☐ Proof of identification and ownership, including copies of registration information, adoption papers or proof of purchase and microchip information
- ☐ Medical records with vaccination info and medications — along with the dosages and reason for taking them
- ☐ Animal first aid kit, including flea and tick treatment if needed
- ☐ Portable carriers (cages, tanks, etc.)
- ☐ Muzzle, extra collar and sturdy leash if applicable
- ☐ Natural fiber sheet to drape over the carrier to help calm your pet
- ☐ Comforting toys or treats
- ☐ Litter, litter pan and litter scoop
- ☐ Plastic bags for cleanup

*\*Rotate food and water in your emergency kit every six months to avoid expiration.*



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**CONTACT US TODAY**  
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SECURE  
RECENT PET  
PHOTO HERE

## PET INFORMATION

Name

Species

Breed

Age

Distinguishing Marks

Allergies

Microchipped?

Sex

Color

Eye Color

## OWNER INFORMATION

Name

Phone

Address

Email

Local Vet

Other Emergency Contact/Phone

Secondary Vet