

**Will you be ready if a Category 5 hurricane strikes Newport County?**

Have a disaster plan ready for your animals. Here are some simple steps to follow to protect them in the event evacuation is necessary:

**If you are going to stay in your home, follow these simple rules for keeping your pet safe:**

- Bring all animals indoors. Find a safe place inside your home and confine your animal.
- Keep your dog on a leash and your cat in a carrier. In the event you **do** have to leave suddenly, you won't have to search for your animals.
- Have a week's supply of pet food, water and medication inside a watertight container.

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**IF YOU EVACUATE,  
TAKE YOUR PET!**

- **Your animal's best protection in a disaster is to be with you.** If you must evacuate, the most important thing to do is bring your pet with you. Injury, becoming lost and even death are real possibilities for an animal left behind. Damage to your home may allow a confined animal to escape. Leaving pets out-of-doors during a disaster can be a death sentence.

**Stay one step ahead of an evacuation order.** Leave early - you will need to make arrangements for you/your pets other than the evacuation shelters for humans

(most do not accept animals). **Check with hotels and motels along your evacuation route to learn if they accept pets and under what conditions.** They may have restrictions on number, size and species. Develop a list of animal-friendly places now.

- **Make a list of boarding facilities, veterinarians, and your local shelter that might also shelter animals in an emergency.**

**Pack your pet's suitcase:** a week's worth of food, medication, bottled water and supplies (litter, litter box, bowls, etc.).

Have a **sturdy carrier** that is large enough to accommodate your animal comfortably; you may have to keep your animal in the carrier for several hours.

\* \* \* \* \*

**If you find yourself in the worst-case scenario and must leave your pets at home, take these precautions:**

- Confine your animal to the **safest and most secure room inside the house**, preferably one without windows but with adequate ventilation such as a bathroom.
- Leave **enough food for four days.** Leave **several containers of water** – an animal's intake of water increases under stress.
- **Leave the faucet dripping.**
- Provide **access to elevated spaces or counters** in the event of flooding.
- Securely **fasten a waterproof note to the front door** advising

which animals are in the house and where they are located. On this note, **provide contact phone numbers** for you and your veterinarian.

- Leave familiar bedding and safe toys.

\* \* \* \* \*

**No matter where you weather the storm, here is a list of critical "to do's":**

- Make sure your animal is wearing **up-to-date ID tags.**
- In the event you get separated and have to search for your animal after the disaster, keep with you a **current photograph**, which clearly shows your animal's features.
- Make sure your animal is **up-to-date on all shots** and have a copy of those **veterinary records** handy.
- Prepare written instructions on **feeding schedules, medical conditions, behavior problems** and the **name and phone number of your veterinarian** in case you have to board your animal or place them in a foster care situation.
- Have some of your animal's favorite toys available to reduce stress, especially if you must confine them in a crate or carrier.

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**In the event you are not near home when disaster strikes,** arrange to have a trusted friend or neighbor who is familiar with your animal take responsibility for its care.



## Disaster Planning for your Animals

Disasters can strike suddenly - don't be caught off guard.

Please read and consider the information in this pamphlet.

It may save your pet's life.

For more information, or to download another copy of this pamphlet, please visit our website,

[www.potterleague.org](http://www.potterleague.org)

The Potter League for Animals  
87 Oliphant Lane  
Middletown, RI  
Tel. 401-846-8276

P.O. Box 412  
Newport, RI 02840

### DISASTER SUPPLIES CHECKLIST

- Portable Carrier (essential for cats)
- Food and water bowls
- Leashes
- Supply of your animal's food and water in plastic bottles
- Litter box and litter for cats
- Supply of your animal's regular medications
- First Aid kit
- Health records, including vaccination records
- Instructions for feeding schedules and diet, medications, and any special needs
- Name/phone number of your veterinarian

### IDENTIFICATION FOR YOUR ANIMAL

- Keep up-to-date identification on all of your animals at all times
- Keep current color photos of your animal with your emergency supplies and take them with you if you must evacuate
- Visit the Potter League for free ID tags

### HOW WE CAN REACH YOU

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Local Phone Numbers

Home ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Work ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Out of Area Contact

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

#### Phone Numbers

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

*The following information may be crucial after a disaster event to help reunite you with your pet. Please take a moment to complete this form and then store it safely with your pet's suitcase. Make a copy to store with your important documents.*

### WHERE WE CAN FIND YOUR PETS

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street (no PO Boxes): \_\_\_\_\_

Nearest Cross Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions to Home or Property (attach map if possible)

Starting at: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Access: instruct us about location of keys, access codes, combinations, or other information necessary to gain entry:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**REMEMBER:  
ATTACH A PHOTO OF YOUR  
PET TO THIS FORM.**

### EVACUATION SITES

Your animal's best protection is being with you, and taking your pet requires special planning.

Evacuation shelters generally don't accept animals, so locate a safe place for you/your pets **before** disaster strikes.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Animals to take to this location

Directions \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Animals to take to this location

Directions \_\_\_\_\_

### CONTACT INFO FOR YOUR VET AND OTHER PET CAREGIVERS

In the event we need to reach these caregivers:

Primary Vet \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Alternative Vet \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Pet Sitter Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Kennel \_\_\_\_\_

Address/Primary Phone \_\_\_\_\_

