# Ready or Not Philadelphia

Evacuating

Building a Go Kit

Shelter in Place for Animals

# **Evacuating With Your Pet**

During an emergency, you may be need to evacuate your home. If you need to evacuate, it is important that you plan for your pet as well. It's important to plan now, so you and your pet will be ready whenever an emergency occurs.

- Know your pet's favorite hiding places.
- Determine if you have family or friends outside of your neighborhood who can shelter your pet.
- Identify animal friendly hotels/motels within and outside of your neighborhood. Visit www.petswelcome.com for a list of pet-friendly hotels.
- Create a GO KIT. See the GO KIT Checklist for a list of recommended items.
- Visit your veterinarian regularly and keep copies of your pet's health records in your GO KIT. It is very important that you can prove that your pet's vaccinations are current.
- Bring pet medications with you.
- Have a crate or carrier that is large enough so your pet can stand and turn around while inside it.
- Have leashes, collars, and muzzles easily accessible.
- Be sure that your animal is wearing identification at all times.
- Micro-chip or register your pet.

- Become familiar with the best practices for transporting "unique" animals such as birds, amphibians/reptiles, and other small animals.
- Practice your plan.

# Animal Go Kit

During an emergency, animals need all daily supplies, plus a few other items that can provide comfort and ensure their safety:

- Three day supply of food and water (Check with your veterinarian about the appropriate amount of food and water for your pets.)
- Bowls for food and water
- Manual can opener for wet food
- Copies of your animal's health records, registration, and proof of vaccinations
- List of the medications your pet takes regularly, including the type of medication, dosage, and the condition for which your pet is taking the medication.
- Contact list of veterinarian and local animal clinics
- Animal first-aid kit, including flea and tick treatment
- Extra collar, leash and muzzle
- Photos of you and your pet
- Toys and treats
- Litter, litter box, and scoop
- Plastic bags, paper towels, and cleaning supplies for cleanup

• Collapsible carrier and cover sheet

## Shelter in Place for Animals

Unfortunately, there may be situations that might prevent you from evacuating with your pet. If this occurs, it might be several days before your pet can be rescued.

# As pet owners, you know what is best for your animal. Here are some tips to get you started:

- Never leave your pet outside during an emergency.
- Follow advice from local officials regarding how to secure and protect your home for emergencies.
- It may be days before you can return or your animals can be rescued. Leave plenty of food and water for each animal.
  Large bowls or self-dispensing feeders work best for food.
  Bathtubs, large and low-lying bowls are best water sources.
- Inform rescue workers that there is an animal inside your home by hanging a piece of paper or sticker on your front door or window. List your animals by name and description, and include your contact information.
- Even if you have pets that generally get along with one another, you may want to consider separating animals in your absence. Moods and behavior are likely to change under stressful situations.

If first responders tell you to Shelter in Place instead of evacuate, keep your pet with you. Remember to keep your animal go kit with you and your pet when you Shelter in Place.

# Panel 5 Emergency Contact Information

## Be Ready.

## Make a Plan.

# Get what you need.

Are you, your household and pets prepared for an emergency? If you had to stay in your home for a few days, would you have what you need for your family and pets to stay safe, comfortable and healthy? If you had to leave your home suddenly without time to pack anything, would you and your pets be ready to go?

The time to start planning for an emergency is not in the middle of one. In an emergency, you're either ready or you're not.

# **Contact Information**

Local Veterinarian:

Alternate Veterinarian:

Neighborhood Contact:

Long Distance Emergency Contact:

Boarding Facility (30-90 miles from your home):

Pet-friendly Hotel (30-90 miles from your home):

#### **Additional Resources**

Pennsylvania State Animal Response Team (PA SART) http://sart.cas.psu.edu/

Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PSPCA) www.pspca.org

Philadelphia Animal Care and Control Association (PACCA) www.pacca.org

Morris Animal Refuge www.morrisanimalrefuge.org

Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) www.pema.state.pa.gov

The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) www.aspca.org

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) www.hsus.org

## Sign Up for ReadyNotifyPA

When situations arise in Philadelphia that may affect you and your family, ReadyNotifyPA lets officials send you E-mail or text messages by cell phones, pagers or other E-mail enabled devices. Be among the first to find out and stay informed during an emergency.

For more information about what to do during an emergency and to sign up for ReadyNotifyPA, visit: www.phila.gov/ready or call 311