



We enjoy a wonderful climate and lifestyle in Queensland. However, natural hazards such as cyclone, storm and flood are an inevitable part of our environment. History has shown that we cannot afford to be complacent about the dangers they present.

Take the time now to prepare for emergencies and:

- Prepare your Home;
- Prepare your Pets Emergency Plan and Pet Emergency Kit;
- Prepare your Household Emergency Plan;
- Prepare your Household for Evacuation and your Evacuation Kit; and
- Tune into Warnings.

Just as we need to prepare our family and our home for times of emergency or disaster, we also need to prepare our pets. Your pets are part of your household; by taking time to prepare now you can improve the safety and well being of your family pets by ensuring their needs are included in your household preparedness planning.

Although individual needs will vary, you need to decide on the best plan for your circumstances and region.

Check with your local council and other agencies on possible hazards, local emergency plans and what arrangements are in place regarding temporary animal shelters during times of major emergencies or disasters.

Prepare your Pet Emergency Plan



Be prepared

If considering moving animals to a safer place, do so early to avoid unnecessary risk. It may not be possible to take your pet with you to a temporary evacuation shelter - plan ahead and be prepared.

- Secure animals inside before an emergency event, so that they do not take flight or run away.
- Use a secure pet carrier/cage, leash or harness to move any animals to safety.
- Ensure all vaccinations remain current.
- It may be possible for your pet to be boarded in a safe environment away from the emergency zone.
- If you are able to house your animal in a temporary foster home, ensure your pet's medical and feeding information, food, medicine and other supplies accompany them to the foster home.
- Ensure all pets are properly identified. Remember – during times of disaster, telephones may not be available and it is important any registered method includes your current address.
- Have a current photograph. This may assist in easily identifying you as the legal owner.

Trained assistance dogs

In most cases, trained assistance dogs will be allowed to stay in emergency shelters with their owners. Those that are accepted may require proper identification and proof of vaccination. Check with local council for more information.

What if your pet is not a dog or cat?

Although the majority of household's companion pets are commonly dogs, cats and birds; the suggested information can be applied to all household pet emergency planning.

Should your companion pet not fall within this category, e.g. aquariums, reptiles, small livestock (pigs, fowls, goats, horses, cattle, sheep), it is suggested you contact specialised agencies, e.g. Queensland Primary Industry and Fisheries (livestock), the RSPCA, your animal's veterinarian or local pet shop for specialised advice in planning for emergencies.

Pet Emergency Kit

Ensure your Pet Emergency Kit is easily accessible and includes:

- Pet medications (for up to two weeks), medical and vaccination records and veterinarian details.
- Sufficient food (including treats) and water (e.g. bottled) for each animal - for up to a two week period. Don't forget the can opener if you have tinned food.
- A familiar pet blanket or bedding, toys, grooming equipment.
- A secure pet carrier, leash or harness to move any animals to safety.
- Consider your animal's sanitation needs, which is important for their (and your) health; e.g. newspaper, paper towels disinfectant, rubbish bags.
- Birds must eat daily - put special food and water dispensers in bird cages and have a cover for the cage.
- Important telephone numbers; e.g. your veterinarian, pet information and advisory services.
- Details of identification methods.
- A current photograph for identification purposes.

ALWAYS ENSURE

- **Your pet has access to plenty of food and fresh water.**
- **Your pet has shelter and bedding.**
- **All animals under your care can be properly and easily identified.**
- **You have telephone numbers for your veterinarian/local animal welfare agency included in your household emergency kit.**
- **You never leave an animal tied-up or chained without shelter and bedding.**
- **You never leave an animal in a motor vehicle.**



Prepare your Pet Emergency Plan



Pet Emergency Kit checklist (for each animal)

Identification details		Bedding, toys	
Medications		Grooming equipment	
		Food, can opener	
		Water and bowl	
Vaccination records		Secure carrier/cage, lease, harness	
Veterinarian details		Sanitation needs	

Pet medical information

Name	Medication	Dosage and how often

Important telephone numbers

Animal medical emergency centre	
RSPCA 1300 363 736 to report a lost or found animal	1300 animal 1300 264 625
Local animal welfare agency	
Veterinarian	
Police, Fire and Ambulance (only call if you believe the emergency is life threatening, critical or serious)	Emergencies: 000 Triple Zero (112 from mobile)
State Emergency Services (SES)	132 500
Local Council	
Pet insurance provider	
Pet information and advisory services	
Workplace	
Workplace	
Neighbours	
Neighbours	

Household contact details

Name	Mobile Number	Email Address

Nominated household emergency contact

Nearby contact name	
Address	
Home/work phone numbers	
Email address	
Out of town contact name	
Address	
Landline/mobile numbers	
Email address	

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For more information on preparing for emergencies – visit: www.disaster.qld.gov.au