



## Emergency Preparedness for Your Pets

The North Shore Emergency Management Office recommends that you prepare emergency plans for yourself and your family, including your pets. Preparing an emergency kit designed to sustain each member of the family for a minimum of 72 hours is one step to protect your loved ones.



### IF YOU EVACUATE, TAKE YOUR PETS WITH YOU!

#### Dogs

Ensure your dog is licensed as a means of ID for your pet. The ID should also have your contact information and be fastened to your dog's collar. Have your dog micro chipped or tattooed for quick identification of owner. If evacuating, have one kennel or carrier per dog for easy transport and a supply of plastic bags.

#### Cats

Have your cat, identifiable with a micro chip or a collar with an ID. If evacuating, have one crate for each cat. Get your cat familiar with the carrier, so in the event of an emergency you will not struggle to get your cat to go into the crate. Litter trays and plastic bags should be kept on hand.

#### Birds

Birds should be transported in a travel cage. In cold weather, tarp a blanket around the cage. During warm weather, carry a spray bottle of water to mist the feathers. Do not put water inside the carrier during transport. If the cage does not have a perch, line it with paper towels and change frequently. Do not let birds out of the carrier and keep cage in a quiet area.



#### Reptiles

Snakes can be transported in a pillow case, but they must be transferred to more secure housing when they reach the evacuation site. Have a container with air holes on hand to keep snakes safe. Keep a water bowl large enough for soaking as well as a heating pad. When transporting house lizards, follow the same directions as birds.

#### Insects

In an evacuation, place your insect in a terrarium, jar or plastic container, ensuring that air holes in the container are small enough to prevent escape. Place potting soil on the bottom.

#### Fish

Scoop your fish with a net into a water filled plastic container for transport. Make sure the water is the appropriate temperature for survival. Have your emergency container easily accessible.

#### Hamsters, rabbits, etc.

Small mammals should be transported in secure carriers suitable for maintaining the animals, ensuring you have bedding material in the carrier.

#### Horses

Have arrangements in place to trailer or move your horse in the event of a disaster. Keep a photograph and a copy of the bill of sale in your emergency kit. Also have a grab and go bag with food, water and hay for your horse.



For Additional info visit: [www.nsemo.org](http://www.nsemo.org)



## PREPARE YOUR PET FOR THE UNEXPECTED!

If you do evacuate, it is important to remember to take your pets with you. Leaving pets behind, can result in them being injured, lost or worse. So prepare now for the day when your pets may have to leave your home.

### Where Will You Take Your Pets?

We are very fortunate to have such great services available for our pets. Here on the North Shore most reception centers and group lodging facilities will have an area designated for **household** pets. Please be respectful of the policies put in place to ensure your safety as well as pet safety.

As a precaution, you may want to keep emergency contact information of friends, relatives or others outside the affected area that are able to care for your pets. Prepare a list of boarding facilities that can accommodate your pets. This might be very useful if you have to stay in a hotel that does not accommodate pets.

For horses, please have arrangements in place where your horse can be boarded and kept while you are at a reception centre or group lodging facility.

Whether you are away for one day or a week, you will need essential supplies for your pets. Keep items in a sturdy container that can easily be carried. Your pet emergency kit should include the following.

## EMERGENCY KIT SHOULD INCLUDE:

- Photo of your pet
- Vet and vaccination records
- Up to two weeks worth of medication
- Up to two weeks worth of food and portable water (canned food is best- don't forget a can opener)
- Non-spill food and water bowls
- Plastic bags for waste disposal
- Pet first aid kit
- Collar and leash
- Cage, carrier or kennel
- Paper towels and disinfectants
- Blankets, bed, toy and treats
- The number for the local animal shelters if your pet goes missing
- The number for your veterinarian
- The number for your usual boarding facility

### What to do

#### Take action

- Check to be sure your pet emergency supplies are ready to go at a moments notice
- Ensure all dogs and cats are wearing collars and securely fastened with tags showing up to date contact information
- Find out where your pets hide when they are afraid, so that in the event of an emergency you know where to find them
- Keep an up to date photo of your pet

Remember, if it isn't safe for you, it isn't safe for your pets. They may become trapped or escape and be exposed to numerous life-threatening hazards.

## Be Responsible for your pet

You never know when an emergency will strike. Planning and preparing in advance can help to save the lives of the ones you love. Keep in mind that animals react differently to stress. Animal instincts could be to panic, hide, try to escape or even bite or scratch. Keeping pets confined to their crate will help to prevent this as well as keep your pet safe.

### After a Disaster

When the disaster clears and you can return home, do not let your pet run free as dangerous objects and debris may be strewn both inside and outside your home. Your pet may also become disoriented or stressed if the disaster completely disheveled your home. Give your pets time to settle back into their routines. Consult with your veterinarian if any behavior problems persist.

### Helpful Links:

District of North Vancouver Animal Shelter:

[www.petfinder.com/shelters/BC62.html](http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/BC62.html)

Animal Welfare Shelter and Services:

<http://www.dnv.org/article.asp?c=576>

BC SPCA West Vancouver:

<http://spca.bc.ca/>

Vancouver Animal Shelter Preparedness Page

<http://vancouver.ca/commsvcs/licandinsp/animalcontrol/emergency.htm>