



SUNCOAST
HUMANE SOCIETY

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HUMANE.ORG

Preparing for Disaster



Have a Plan

Pet-Friendly Shelters

Packing for a Shelter

Plan with your pet in mind.

If it's not safe for you to stay, it's not safe for your pet! Leaving a pet behind in a disaster dramatically decreases its chance of survival. Decide on a course of action and make sure you can initiate it at a moment's notice.

Suncoast Humane Society is NOT an option for boarding your pet during a disaster.

Sarasota and Charlotte County has designated a few pet friendly shelters, however, they too will fill rapidly. Prepare in advance by identifying evacuation and shelter locations, make sure you know how to get there.

Make sure your pet is microchipped.

A lost pet can be scanned and returned to you as long as your information is recorded and up to date. You may have your pet microchipped at Suncoast Humane Society for a low fee; call 941-474-7884 to schedule an appointment.

If you choose NOT to evacuate...

Stay tuned to the news reports and have everything packed and ready in case you have to evacuate at a moment's notice. Keep dogs on leashes and cats in carriers, wearing identification – make sure your pet is ready. Keep your pet's food, water, and medical supplies in watertight containers. Stay calm – your pets can sense your emotions, so a calming demeanor can make your pet feel more at ease. Speak to your pet in a calm, soothing voice.

After the storm...

Following the storm animals may be very disoriented. Flooding, downed fences and power lines, will pose serious dangers to you and your pet. Keep your pet secure during this time. Do not allow them to roam loose. Do not allow them to consume food or water which may have become contaminated.

Not all area shelters will open at once. It is best to contact the shelter before leaving your house to know if it is open, and their pet requirements.

Sarasota County

- ***Atwater Elementary School*** – 4701 Hunsville Ave., North Port. (941) 257-2317
- ***Booker High School*** – 3201 N. Orange Ave., Sarasota. (941) 355-2967
- ***Brookside Middle School*** – 3636 S. Shade Ave., Sarasota. (941) 361-6472
- ***Fruitville Elementary School*** – 601 N. Honore Ave., Sarasota. (941) 361-6200
- ***Gulf Gate Elementary School*** – 6500 S. Lockwood Ridge Rd., Sarasota. (941) 361-6499
- ***Heron Creek Middle School*** – 6501 W. Price Blvd., North Port. (941) 480-3371
- ***North Port High School*** – 6400 W. Price Blvd., North Port. (941) 423-8558
- ***Phillippi Shores Elementary*** – 4747 S. Tamiami Trl., Sarasota. (941) 361-6424
- ***Riverview High School*** – 1 Ram Way, Sarasota. (941) 923-1484
- ***Southside Elementary School*** – 1901 Webber St., Sarasota. (941) 361-6420
- ***Woodland Middle School*** – 2700 Panacea Blvd., North Port. (941) 240-8590

Charlotte County

- ***Harold Avenue Regional Park- Recreation Center*** – 23400 Harold Ave, Port Charlotte. (941) 627-1074
- ***Kingsway Elementary School*** – 23300 Quasar Blvd., Port Charlotte. (941) 255-7590
- ***Liberty Elementary School*** – 370 Atwater St., Port Charlotte. (941) 255-7515
- ***Neil Armstrong Elementary*** – 22100 Breezeswept Ave., Port Charlotte. (941) 255-7450

It's important to know what you can and cannot bring to a pet-friendly shelter. Always check with the shelter about their requirements. Here are some recommended items to pack and bring to a pet-friendly shelter:

- Leash and collar with name tag and owner's contact info
- Crate
- 2-weeks worth of supply of food and water
- Your pet's vaccination records & a current rabies vaccination tag
- Medications & written instructions for feeding & administering medication
- Kitty litter & an appropriate container



important contacts

SARASOTA COUNTY CALL CENTER

941-861-9720

SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ANIMAL SERVICES

941-861-9500

CHARLOTTE COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL

941-833-5690

CHARLOTTE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

941-833-4000

LEE COUNTY DOMESTIC ANIMAL SERVICES

239-533-7387 (LEE-PETS)

SUNCOAST HUMANE SOCIETY

941-474-7884

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Hurricanes, tornadoes, fires, floods and hazardous or toxic material spills are just a few of the disasters we face living along the Texas Gulf Coast. Preparing your pet for a disaster today might save his or her life tomorrow.



Identification: Ensure your pet wears a collar with up-to-date information on a tag or label.



Vaccinations: All pets should be current on their shots. Keep a copy of the vaccination records along with other veterinary documents sealed in a plastic bag.



Sleeping quarters: Keep your pets' beds away from windows or shelving to protect them from shattering glass or falling objects.



Crates: Every pet should have a crate or kennel. Be sure to familiarize your pets with their crates before a disaster strikes.



Check your yard: Make sure all fencing is secure and all holes and potential escape routes are blocked.



Plan ahead: Identify animal shelters, boarding facilities, veterinarians, pet-friendly lodging, and friends/relatives that may temporarily house your pets.



DISASTER PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

Use this checklist as a guide for building your own disaster preparedness kit for your pet(s).

- Molded plastic carrier
- Copy of rabies and vaccination records in a sealed plastic bag
- Pet first aid book and kit
- Two-week supply of pet food
- Bottled water
- One-month supply of your pet's regular medications
- Non-spill food and water bowls
- Extra collars and leashes
- Plastic bags (for scooping poop)
- Cat litter pan and litter
- Sheets and blankets
- Manual can opener
- Newspaper/Puppy Pads
- Disinfectants and paper towels
- Grooming supplies



IF YOU EVACUATE, TAKE YOUR PETS WITH YOU!



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HUMANE SOCIETY

Disaster Kit Checklist

Caring & Preparing for Your Pet

- ☐ Collar with tag(s) and a sturdy leash
- ☐ ID tags, rabies tag, microchip ID and company contact information
- ☐ Extra collars, harnesses and leashes
- ☐ Any pet medications (Ask your vet about keeping extra supplies or medication, or a copy of prescriptions for these medications in your kit. Be sure to replace medications before they expire)
- ☐ Medical records and current vaccinations (Boarding facilities and public shelter will not admit animals without current vaccines)
- ☐ Current (less than a year old) photograph of each pet (with owner) to prove ownership if you are separated from your pet
- ☐ Secure carrier or collapsible cage for large dogs for each pet and bedding. Carriers should be large enough for the animals to stand comfortably and turn around and house a litter box if appropriate. Allow your pets to become familiar with their carriers ahead of time so they will feel secure and comfortable in case they need to live in them for several days or even weeks after a storm.
- ☐ Food (at least a 2-week supply), stored in watertight containers in a cool, dry place
- ☐ Water (at least a 2-week supply)
- ☐ Manual can opener
- ☐ Cat litter, liners and a pan
- ☐ Plastic trash bags to handle waste
- ☐ Newspaper, paper towels and disinfectant for clean-up
- ☐ Toys and any special comfort items that can fit in the crate with the animal
- ☐ Muzzle, if necessary. Use extra precaution handling your pet. In a disaster, animals may not act normally.
- ☐ Out of area contact name and phone number.
- ☐