ANIMALDOSSIER · FIELD GUIDE

Ready, Pet, Go.

Your pet's emergency-preparedness checklist.

For dogs, cats, and the people responsible for packing their bags.

Follow local emergency instructions. If you evacuate, take your pets with you.[1]

01 / Pack the essentials [1]

- [ ] Several days of food + water; bowls
- [ ] Regular medications + care instructions
- [ ] Carrier or crate for each pet; leash / harness
- [ ] Collar with current ID; spare leash
- [ ] Waste bags; cat litter + portable tray
- [ ] Vet-advised first-aid supplies
- [ ] Familiar blanket, toy, or treats

Plan a larger home kit and a lightweight evacuation kit. Ask your vet about medication supply and storage.

02 / Keep records ready [1][2]

- [ ] Check microchip registration + contact details
- [ ] Pack vaccination + medical records
- [ ] Include prescriptions and vet contact details
- [ ] Add recent photos, including one together
- [ ] Keep paper + offline electronic copies

Suggested care summary: feeding, allergies, medications as prescribed, and handling needs. Share privately with your caregiver.

03 / Plan the handoff [1][2]

- [ ] Confirm a pet-friendly destination + backup
- [ ] Agree on a primary + backup caregiver
- [ ] Arrange transport and safe caregiver access
- [ ] Show helpers the pets' hiding spots
- [ ] Keep carriers and supplies easy to reach

04 / Practice + maintain [1][2]

- [ ] Practice carriers, transport, and evacuation
- [ ] Adapt the plan with your vet for special needs
- [ ] Check food, water, and medication supplies
- [ ] Update contacts and care instructions
- [ ] After a disaster, use a leash or carrier outdoors

Your household's grab-and-go notes

Pet name(s): _____

Kit / carrier location: _____

Caregiver + phone: _____

Backup caregiver + phone: _____

Vet + phone: _____

Destination + phone: _____

Food / water packed for: ____ / ____ days

Last-minute items / location: _____

Last checked: _____

Next review: _____

Store door codes and other sensitive access details separately. Keep this completed sheet private.

Preparation, not treatment. U.S.-oriented dog/cat checklist; other species need tailored plans. Follow local officials and your veterinarian. No endorsement by the sources is implied.

Sources: [1] Ready.gov, ready.gov/pets · [2] CDC, Pet Safety in Emergencies. Worksheet fields and review prompts are editorial additions.