

Create A Family Disaster Plan

Discuss types of disasters that are most likely to happen in your community or region

Discuss what to do if you need to evacuate:

- X Where will you go?
- X How will you get there?
- X What is an alternate route, in the event that the original route is inaccessible?
- X What might you take with you?

Pick 2 places to meet

- X Right outside your home in a pre-designated spot, in case of a sudden home emergency (such as a fire)
- X Outside of your neighborhood, in case you can't return home

Ask an out of state friend/relative to be your "emergency family contact"

- X After a disaster it is often easier to call long distance.
- X In case of separation, other family members should call this person and tell them where they are.
- X Be sure that everyone in your family knows the "emergency family contact" and their address and contact numbers.

Assemble a family disaster supplies kit

Assemble a pet disaster or evacuation kit

Take pictures or videos of the contents of your home for insurance purposes. Store the video or pictures with a friend/family member or in a safe place away from the home

Make photocopies of important papers and store safely or take with you in plastic waterproof ziplock type bags: * auto registration * insurance policies personal and home * insurance agents' name and telephone numbers * last bank statement * last credit card statements * social security card * contracts * deeds * wills * birth certificates * marriage certificate * immunization records * military records * passport * investment and retirement papers, etc.

Alternate Plans in Case of a Disaster

What happens if you can't get home?

1. Keep current identification information on all of your pets, even if they are totally indoors
2. Leave extra water - water is more essential than food
3. Leave an extra bowl; consider an automatic waterer and don't close the toilet lid
4. Put a notice on entry doors and windows letting rescue personnel know that there are pets inside your home. Keep this information current!
5. Make arrangements with a neighbor, friend, or pet sitter that:
 - ✓ knows the animal(s) and feels comfortable with them
 - ✓ knows where your disaster supply kit is kept
 - ✓ has a key to your house
 - ✓ knows how to contact you or your emergency contact

What if there is an immediate emergency with little to no warning (such as a fire or event that causes you to suddenly evacuate)?

PRACTICE DRILLS ARE ESSENTIAL

1. Practice exiting your home blindfolded
 2. Place a pair of shoes and a flashlight under your bed, so that they are readily available during an emergency
 3. Practice gathering all your family members, animals, and emergency supplies and exiting the house with your animals secured (in carriers, crates, or even pillowcases as cat bags)
 4. Consider taking a CPR class and First Aid class - contact your local American Red Cross chapter for course schedule
- ** These drills should be done more than once - the goal is to become more proficient and save time with each practice drill.