



TIP OF THE MONTH #5
JANUARY 2021

**PET EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS**

From the GHNA Disaster Preparedness Committee



Supplies and Travel Kit

Your beloved pet is counting on you to be prepared for an emergency and possible travel to a safer location.

Collect the items below and place in a travel bag that can be grabbed quickly in the event of a disaster:

- Up to a week's worth canned (pop top) and/or dry food.
- Bowl for water and food.
- Blanket for comfort and security.
- Liquid dish soap and disinfectant.
- Paper towels.
- Disposable bags for clean up.
- Extra harness, leash and yard stake.
- Bottled water - min. 72-hour supply per pet.
- Disposable litter tray and litter. Aluminum roasting pans are perfect.
- Recent photo of your pet(s) in case you are separated.
- Photocopies of medical records in sealed container, such as a watertight zip lock bag.
- Two weeks supply of pet's medicine and ensure they are up to date on vaccines.

Purchase a portable crate or carrier for transport. Make the crate/carrier a comfortable resting, feeding, and play space for your pet. Acclimate your pet to the carrier:

- Place a comfortable blanket or pad inside
- Leave the carrier out where the pet can see it
- Place a treat inside and around the carrier
- Once they start to go inside, close the door for a few seconds, open it and reward them with a treat
- Gradually increase the time and continue to reward with treats

Implement a buddy system by identifying someone you trust to take care of your pet when you are away. They will need a key to your house, know where to find your pet, be comfortable with your pet and know where to find the pet's emergency kit.

In addition, make sure that your pet's ID tags are up to date. Consider listing two phone numbers: your cell and a friend or relative outside your city. This will be beneficial if telephone service is down in your area and ensures your pet can be cared for until you can be reunited. If your pet is micro-chipped you can rest easier knowing that their identity and family can be traced back to you in case they get lost.

Keep a list of animal shelters, boarding facilities and pet-friendly hotels in the event of an emergency evacuation. You may want to make contact with your planned evacuation site so you know their protocols and restrictions.

Finally, place a sign or sticker on a prominent window or door to alert rescue workers that pets are inside your home.

You can get a [free pet safety sticker](#) on the ASPCA website.



For more tips on preparing for a disaster, visit www.garfieldheights.org under DISASTER PREP.



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