

26 WEEKS

to Pet Emergency Preparedness

WEEK 1	PORTABLE CONTAINER
Get a large portable container with a lid to use as an emergency kit. A plastic storage bin or garbage can works well, particularly one with wheels. Choose an accessible location for the container near an exit and label the container. Make sure all family members know what it will be used for and where it is. You may also want to pack items into individual wheeled carts, knapsacks, etc. to make them easier to carry by individual family members.	
WEEK 2	7 DAY SUPPLY OF WATER
Stock your kit with at least a week's supply of water for every pet. It is best to plan for four litres of water per animal, per day — two for drinking and two for food preparation, spillage, cleaning, etc. You might consider the addition of water purification tablets.	
WEEK 3	7 DAY SUPPLY OF FOOD
Stock your kit with several varieties of appropriate foods – dry, moist (canned or pouch), livestock feed, hay, etc. If you have cans, include a manual can opener. Plan for at least a week's supply of food for each pet.	
WEEK 4	OUT OF AREA PHONE CONTACT
Arrange an out-of-area phone contact person, and keep this and other emergency phone numbers or email addresses in your kit and on your person. Get tags with this number for all pets.	
WEEK 5	SUPPLIES
Add pet supplies to your kit – e.g. poop bags, muzzle, litter and litter boxes, cage liners, cuttlebone, grit, beak conditioner, heat lamp, salt lick.	
WEEK 6	CONFINEMENT
Add a crate, carrier, tie out, ex-pen, cage, box, pillowcase, capture net, etc. to your kit.	
WEEK 7	CARE
Get grooming supplies for your emergency kit. Oatmeal works as a “shampoo” for a dry bath.	
WEEK 8	LEARN ABOUT HAZARDS
Know the hazards in your community. Find out if the area where you live is vulnerable to earthquakes, landslides, flooding, interface fires or other threats such as hazardous material spills. Ensure areas inside and outside the home are safe for you and your pets.	
WEEK 9	PREPARE A FIRST AID KIT
Prepare a pet first-aid kit that includes prescription medications, bandages, sterile gauze pads, tape, scissors, tweezers, antibiotic ointment and other items. Check the expiry date on medications, and rotate them regularly.	
WEEK 10	SPECIFIC SAFETY TASKS
To ensure evacuation, assign a family member to each pet. Print photos of the pets alone and with family for your kit. Date, label and include them in your kit. These will assist with identification for pet/family reunification.	
WEEK 11	IDENTIFY SAFE PLACES & RECEPTION CENTRES
Identify safe places in your home and on your property. Plan where to take your pets in case of an evacuation alert or order. Know where your community may set up Reception Centres and Group Lodgings for evacuees and inquire about arrangements for pets.	

WEEK 12	PET FRIENDLY LODGING
Identify pet friendly lodging away from home and close to your regular spots (work, home and school).	
WEEK 13	LIGHTING ALTERNATIVES
Add a flashlight and extra batteries, along with candles and waterproof matches to your kit.	
WEEK 14	COMFORT
Add some treats and toys to your emergency kit.	
WEEK 15	CHECK YOUR INFORMATION
Check that ID tag, tattoo and chip registrations have current contact information. Buy or create a door sign for each entrance indicating the number and type of animals.	
WEEK 16	PLASTIC AND PAPER SUPPLIES
Stock your kit with large & medium-sized plastic garbage bags (orange/yellow make good visible signals). Large bags can also be used as ponchos, ground covers or blankets. Add plastic/paper dishes, bowls, utensils and duct tape.	
WEEK 17	ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES
Add an extra leash, collar, harness, weather protection (jacket, ice boots), tarps, etc. to your kit .	
WEEK 18	PET FIRST AID COURSE
Enrol family members in a Pet First Aid Course.	
WEEK 19	ASSEMBLE IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS
Create a pet passport – add vaccination and veterinary information to the photo ID. Make copies for your kit and store originals in a fireproof/waterproof container that will be accessible if your home is damaged. Keep a copy on various devices and with your contact person.	
WEEK 20	CLEANING ITEMS
Consider paper towels, hand wipes, soap, oatmeal (dry shampoo), parasite control, bleach and urine or stain control solutions.	
WEEK 21	CALMING
Add Rescue Remedy®, a ThunderShirt® or vanilla spray to calm a distressed pet. Include a piece of clothing with your scent on it. Add sheets or towels to cover cages or crates. Finally add a pair of thick leather gloves to handle a panicked pet.	
WEEK 22	LARGE GARBAGE/DISPOSAL BUCKET
Get a large bucket with a tight-fitting lid to use as a container for excrement and other waste, and put it with your emergency kit. A shovel may be used to bury waste.	
WEEK 23	BEDDING
Add pet bedding to your kit.	
WEEK 24	MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURS
Meet with neighbours to discuss emergency preparations. Introduce your pets to the neighbours and vice versa. Leave a key with neighbours, so that your pets can be evacuated in an emergency. Ensure that the neighbours know where your pet emergency supplies are kept.	
WEEK 25	EXERCISE YOUR PLAN
Pretend a disaster has happened. Practice evacuating your pets and their gear. An evacuation order may give you several hours notice or as little as 10 minutes. What will you take?	
WEEK 26	PREPARE YOURSELF
Remember to prepare yourself. You can't care for a pet unless you are prepared and safe yourself!	