

Evacuating Without Your Pet

It is always best to take your pet with you during an emergency. But if you cannot take your pet with you, have a plan in place and follow the suggested recommendations below.

- 1. Leave your pets indoors, preferably in rooms that are easily cleaned.
- 2. Never leave an animal tied up outside. If a disaster such as a flood, hurricane or fire occurred, they would have no means of escaping.
- 3. Try to bring outdoor pets indoors ahead of severe weather if at all possible.
- 4. There may be limited resources for exotic species (such as reptiles). These animals should be kept in their special containers to reduce the possibility of them getting loose as well as helping emergency personnel relocate them.
- 5. Avoid placing your pets in rooms with hazards such as large windows, hanging plants or large picture windows.
- 6. Ensure that each animal has a supply of food and water for a number of days. This can be accomplished by filling buckets or other containers with food and water separately. Dry food is better than canned food because it will not spoil.
- 7. Provide litter and bedding for each animal if needed.
- 8. Leave a note for Emergency personnel, in a visible place such as a window or door, advising number and type of animals and animals'names present on the property. Include your name and contact information and the name and number of your veterinarian.
- 9. Take a copy of My Pet Vital Information form with you http://animalemergency.nj.gov/documents/My Pets Vital Information.pdf.