



During a Disaster-Reptile

Plan

Disasters can take many forms, from hurricanes, flooding, electrical storms, high winds, extreme heat/extreme cold, blizzards, tornadoes, wildfires, etc. It is important during this time that you follow the directions of emergency personnel whether to evacuate or shelter in place. Hopefully, you have done the needed preparation for your pet prior to an emergency.

If not already done and time permits, sign up to receive critical alerts by checking your town or county Office of Emergency Management.

Prepare

Be aware that the reactions of your pet during a disaster can change and will be based on fear and instinct. The behavior of reptiles may change due to the vibration of loud noises, flashes of lightening, increasing water levels and falling/moving debris. If an emergency/disaster is imminent place your reptile in a pillow case, cloth sack or transport carrier. If you use a transport carrier, make sure you tape the top closed to ensure your pet does not escape.

Feeding some reptiles during an evacuation circumstances, may cause more stress for your pet. Determine if feeding during these situations is best for the animal.

Gather up your "Go Bag" http://animalemergency.nj.gov/documents/Reptile_Go_Bag.pdf and related supplies and place them by the door.

During a disaster, storm conditions and updates are given by emergency personnel. You can listen to alerts regarding weather and disaster information, along with official instructions and announcements from emergency management by checking alerts on your TV or phone or use a battery powered radio if your electricity is off. Many county Offices of Emergency Management can send critical updates to your phone. To sign up for these updates from your local and county community, visit your town's website or county's Office of Emergency Management.

Act-During an Emergency/Disaster

1. Listen and follow announcements by emergency personnel.
2. Place your reptile in a pillowcase/cloth sack or transport carrier (make sure the top is taped)
3. Have your "Go Bag" by the door.
4. **Take your pet with you if you need to evacuate!**