



# Don't be *blown* away by a natural disaster: 8 preventative pet-care disaster tips

Historically, the months of April and May have produced the most frequent and deadly tornadoes in the U.S. While Mother Nature doesn't keep a calendar, a natural catastrophe can happen at any time of year, leaving you unsuspecting and ill-equipped to care for your pets.

To avoid tragedy, remember the three P's of pet-disaster planning: Practice, planning and preparation. As your pet sitter, I am here to help you care for your pets under any circumstance. Below are some great guidelines to ensure the safety and well-being of your pets:

## 8 Tips to Prepare Your Pet for a Disaster:

- 1 Understand the possibilities.** Recognize the different types of disasters that can occur in your area and know how to effectively plan for them.
- 2 Make decisions early.** Different disasters require different courses of action. The sooner you create an evacuation plan, the more time you will have to prepare.
- 3 Update identification.** Make sure your pet wears current identification at all times. This includes adding your current cell phone number to your pet's tag.
- 4 Carry a picture.** Carry a recent picture of your pet with you in the event you need it for identification.
- 5 Research animal-friendly places.** Know where you can take your pet in the event of an emergency. Evacuation shelters and pet-friendly hotels outside a 60-mile radius of your home are a good place to start.
- 6 Stock needed supplies.** Keep extra leashes, bowls, newspapers, trash bags, cat litter, litter pans and at least a five-day supply of pet food and water on hand.
- 7 Get a carrier.** Have a properly-sized pet carrier for each pet. Carriers should be large enough for the pet to stand up, turn around and lie down comfortably.
- 8 Communicate your plan.** Make sure that the other people you rely on for your pet's care are privy to your specific pet-care plan in case you are away from home when a disaster occurs.

## Be Prepared!

Now is the perfect time to take inventory of your safety supplies and communicate this important information to your clients. Look for the following items to help your disaster preparedness efforts at the PSISoreOnline:



- First aid kits (small or full-size)



- Collar reflector tags with sitter's info

\*\*\*\*\* Pet Alert \*\*\*\*\*

In case of injury, illness or death, please notify the following, who will be responsible for caring for my pet(s) at home alone. # \_\_\_ Dogs # \_\_\_ Cats # \_\_\_ Other

Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone - Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

My Name is \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone - Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

- Pet alert wallet cards

**EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

I am a Professional Pet Sitter. In the event of my injury or illness, there may be pets under my care which require immediate attention. To provide alternate arrangements for their well-being, please contact:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

☒ Thank you for making this important notification. ☒

- Emergency cards for sitters



- Fire emergency stickers