

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR PETS

ANIMALS DEPEND ON US  
CARE ENOUGH TO PLAN



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY  
OF WOOD BUFFALO

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# BEFORE DISASTER STRIKES

Keep vaccinations up-to-date and store a copy of the records with your pets "72-hr Kit."

- Keep up-to-date identification on your pet's collar and tag.
- A current color photograph that shows distinguishing markings.
- Check with your veterinarian to see how long you can safely leave your pet home alone, especially if you are evacuated without notice or are unable to go to your home and pick up your pet.
- When you are evacuated you will NOT be able to bring your pet into an Evacuee Reception Centre or Group Lodging facilities with the exception of service animals. However, there will be services onsite to assist you with pet related issues. Research safe places you can take your pet prior to an evacuation, i.e. hotels, kennels and family or friends.

**Remember – in stressful times your pets' behavior may change. If two pets normally get along they may fight as a result of stress.**

## AS DISASTER APPROACHES

At the first hint of emergency or disaster act to protect your pet; often warnings are issued hours, even days in advance.

- Call ahead to confirm emergency shelter arrangements.
- Check to be sure your pets emergency supplies are ready to take at a moment's notice.
- Bring all pets into the house so that you won't have to search for them if you leave in a hurry.
- Make sure all dogs and cats are wearing collars that are securely fastened. Ensure up-to-date identification. Attach the phone number and address of your temporary shelter, if you know it, or of a friend or relative outside the evacuation area.
- Find a trusted neighbor who would be willing to get your pets and meet you, should you not be at home.

**Remember that your pet is a domesticated animal and therefore lacks the survival instincts that wild animals have.**



## WAIT OUT THE STORM

- Put your pet in a safe, secure room without windows but with adequate ventilation (i.e. bathroom).
- Leave enough food to last for 7 days.
- Fill with water: sink, bath tub and containers that would not tip over.
- Your pet will be under stress and may drink more water than usual. Four to eight litres of water per day per pet can be used as a guideline. Of course this is dependant on the size of your pet.
- Leave familiar bedding and safe toys.
- Do not confine dogs and cats in the same space and cage small animals and birds.
- Ensure that your pet is wearing ID tags.
- Place a notice on your front door that there are pets in the house and where they are located. Provide a telephone number where you can be reached or the number of your veterinarian.
- If you expect flooding provide access to elevated spaces or counters.
- Never leave your pet tied up outside, especially when expecting a flood.

## PETS AND EMERGENCIES

### WHY YOU NEED TO BE PREPARED

Floods, wildfires, hazardous material spills, emergency evacuations – emergencies / disasters can strike anytime, anywhere. If you think you will never have to evacuate unless you live in a floodplain you may be tragically mistaken. It is imperative that you make preparations to evacuate your family and your pets in any situation. In the event of a disaster, proper preparation will pay off with the safety of your family and pets.

**When you evacuate put your pet in a portable kennel. Remember pets will likely be distressed and may bolt from your vehicle.**



## PET 72-HOUR KIT

- Portable pet carrier (store the following items in this carrier.)
- Vaccination record, required ID or license/vaccination tags, microchip number.
- Pet for a minimum of 3 days.
- Water for a minimum of 3 days (4 litres per day per animal.)
- Food and water bowls.
- Kitty litter and litter box.
- Newspaper, plastic bags, cleanser and disinfectants (ammonia free).
- Current photo of pet.
- Blanket, towels or pet bed and toys.
- Medications and medical records stored in a waterproof container.
- First aid kit.
- Sturdy leashes, muzzles, harnesses and/or carriers to transport pets safely.
- Information on feeding schedules, medical conditions, behaviour problems.
- Name and number of your veterinarian.

# MUNICIPAL RESOURCES:

## REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

9909 Franklin Avenue, Fort McMurray, Alberta T9H 2K4  
Telephone: 780.799.8085

For further information please visit:

[www.woodbuffalo.ab.ca](http://www.woodbuffalo.ab.ca)

[www.sPCA.com](http://www.sPCA.com)

