

# Disaster Preparation

## Disaster Kit for Cats

**Prepare an emergency kit for each cat in your household.**

Stock up on the items you may need during a disaster **now** so you do not get caught unprepared. Below is a checklist of items you should include in your pets' disaster kits. Store your disaster kit supplies in an easy-to-grab container.

### **Food**

At least a **one-week supply of the food** your cat is used to eating. If your cat eats canned food, buy cans small enough to be used at one feeding since you may not have a way to properly refrigerate leftovers. Buy pop top cans or make sure to include a **can opener** in your kit. Store food in an **airtight, water proof container** and rotate food at least once every (3) months. Don't forget an **extra food dish** just in case the one normally used is lost and a **spoon** to scoop and/or mix food.

### **Water**

At least a **one-week supply of water**, stored in a cool, dark location. Be sure to rotate it so it remains fresh. Remember that if the tap water is not suitable for humans to drink, it is also not suitable for animals to drink. Don't forget an **extra water dish** just in case the one normally used is lost.

### **Sanitation**

A **small litter box**, **litter scoop**, **one-week supply of litter** and **plastic bags** for disposing your cat's waste. **Newspaper** is very helpful as it is easily shredded to make litter and lighter to transport.

### **Cleaning Supplies**

A small container of **liquid soap** for washing out your cat's food and water dishes. Include **paper towels** and a **disinfectant** for drying dishes and other cleanup if you will be housing your cat in a crate. **Alcohol gel hand sanitizer** is very useful to keep your own hands clean.

### **Collar and Tag**

A proper fitting **break away collar** and an **identification tag** should be kept on your cat at all times, and an **extra collar and identification tag** should be kept with your disaster supplies should the permanent ones get lost. Include a **spare identification tag that you can write on**, so that if you are going to be living somewhere temporarily you can put the phone number and address of that location on the tag. You may want to consider micro-chipping or tattooing your cat as a more permanent form of identification.

### **Harness and Leash**

A [proper fitting harness](#) and [leash](#). If you need to keep your cat confined in a crate for an extended period of time, the harness is key in safely allowing your cat some time out of the crate for exercise.

### **Temporarily Confining Your Cat**

A [collapsible wire cage](#) to transport your cat or house him while evacuated. The cage should be large enough for food and water dishes and a litter box. Don't forget [toys](#) if your cat likes them. (Cages can be purchased at PetSmart, Target, Walmart, Arne's, etc.)

### **Medications**

At least a [two week supply of any medications](#) your cat is taking. Include a copy of your cat's [medical records](#), including [vaccination records](#).

### **Pictures**

[Current pictures of your cat](#) to use in case your cat gets lost and you need to create posters. Include yourself in some of the pictures in case you have to show proof of guardianship. Remember, as with other paperwork in these times, placing it in a [ziploc bag](#) is an added measure of safety.

### **First Aid Kit**

Check with your veterinarian to find out what he/she recommends you include in your first aid kit. Suggested items include:

- first aid book for cats
- conforming bandage (3" x 5")
- absorbent gauze pads (4" x 4")
- absorbent gauze roll (3" x 1 yard)
- cotton tipped applicators (1 small box)
- antiseptic wipes (1 package)
- antibiotic cream (1 tube)
- hydrocortisone anti-itch cream
- tweezers and blunt end scissors
- instant cold pack (available at sports stores)
- latex disposable gloves (several pairs)
- proper fitting muzzle
- gel hand sanitizer
- betadyne solution (1 bottle)