

# BUILDING AN EMERGENCY KIT FOR YOUR PET OR SERVICE ANIMAL

During an emergency, it is important that you have a plan to protect your pets & service animals; they are dependent upon you for survival and a successful outcome. Follow a few simple steps to help your animal companion and/or service animal during times of emergency:

- If you need to evacuate your home, so does your pet. Avoid leaving animals behind.
- Research beforehand which shelters and hotels in your area accept animal guests. Some accept service animals only.
- Include supplies for your animal in your Emergency Preparedness kit or pack a kit specifically for your pet. Below are instructions for packing such a kit.

## Emergency kit for your Pet / Service Animal

Items should be packed in a sturdy, durable container which can be easily carried & is stored in an accessible location in your home. The kit for your pet should include:

- Sturdy leash, harness, and collar
- Pet carrier
- Food, drinking water and bowls to last several days
- Litter and pan (for those with cats)
- Medications & copies of important medical records – make sure to include vaccination records!
- Current photos – this is important in case of an accidental separation
- A pet bed and toys
- Name and phone number of veterinarian(s)

To ensure the best outcome for you and your family – including your pet – plan ahead of an emergency. For additional resources visit, [SCEMD, Preparing Your Pets for Emergencies](#) or [Red Cross, Pet Disaster Preparedness](#).

Source: [Red Cross, Pet Disaster Preparedness](#)

