

Pets in Disasters

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A disaster can occur with or without warning. It is very important to be prepared and the best preparation is a household emergency evacuation plan. **This plan should always include your pets.**

What can I do to prepare for my pets before a disaster?

There are several things you can do to ensure you and your animals are prepared.

- Ensure your family's planned evacuation site can accommodate your pet.
- Keep a list of accommodation options that will accept pets and be aware of any restrictions.
- Talk to friends and relatives in areas not affected by the disaster about temporary pet accommodation.
- Purchase a pet carrier, such as a dog crate or cat cage that can be used to transport and contain your animal. It should be large enough that your animal is able to stand up and turn around inside. For more information on crate training, request a fact sheet from the Animal Management Centre.
- If you need to go to an evacuation centre, find out which ones accept pets.
- When assembling the emergency supplies for your household, ensure you include items for your pets. The checklist on the reverse of this page is a useful guide to the items you should have on hand.
- Properly identify your pets, e.g. Council registration tags, name tags with correct telephone numbers and an up to date microchip. Keep this information with the rest of your family's valuable personal information such as birth certificates and insurance documents so you can easily locate it.
- Include copies of your pet's vaccination records as these are needed by vets and boarding kennels.



What can I do to protect my pets during a disaster?

- Know where you are going to take your animals well in advance of an emergency.
- If moving animals to a safer place do so early to avoid unnecessary risk.
- Be aware that some evacuation centres may not take animals so plan alternatives accordingly.
- If staying at home secure animals indoors so that they do not take flight.
- Provide adequate food and water in large, heavy bowls.
- Place pets in separate rooms with small or preferably no windows e.g. laundry or bathroom.
- Do not tie animals up outside.
- Do not leave pets in vehicles.

What can I do to protect my pets after a disaster?

- Don't let your pets loose in the house or yard until you have had a chance to examine the area very carefully. Ensure pets will be contained and cannot escape through a broken fence or gate.
- Carefully walk the yard to verify the fence is intact and there is nothing new and dangerous in the yard, especially after flooding.
- Don't be surprised if your pet is more anxious or fearful after a disaster. Your pet won't understand what has happened and will look to you for stability and comfort.
- If you lose your pet, contact Council's Animal Management Centre on 3412 5397 or visit 213 Queens Rd, Kingston. Check with other Councils in case your pet was impounded outside of Logan City and also check with other welfare agencies (details below).

Your animal is part of your family. By acting early and seeking help from friends outside of the emergency area, the likelihood of being reunited with your pet will be much greater.

Animal Management Centre:

213 Queens Road, Kingston 4114

Open: Monday to Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm and Saturday 9am to 2pm

Phone: 3412 5397

Email: pound@logan.qld.gov.au

Web: logan.qld.gov.au - Animals

Animal Welfare League of Queensland:

Shelter Road, Coombabah 4216

Phone: 5509 9000

RSPCA Queensland:

139 Wacol Station Road, Wacol 4076

Phone: 3426 9999



Don't forget about me!

A checklist for domestic pets in case of a disaster

Bowls
Collar, lead, harness and muzzle
Crate or pet carrier including bedding
Food – preferably dry food for easy storage
Identification tags – registration tag and tag with name and your phone number
Litter tray and kitty litter
Medical records, including vaccination history and any medications
Pet comfort items: towels, blankets, toys (eg KONG)
Plastic bags, paper towels and newspapers
Registration and microchip information
Water

A checklist for livestock/horses in case of a disaster

Blankets and rugs
Cleaning equipment such as a rake and shovel
Evidence of ownership of animals, including stock register
Farrier equipment and grooming kit
Float and trailer in working order
Fly spray such as Repelex, wound spray and ointment
Food, water and buckets
Halter, bridle, lead and saddle (write your contact information on the halter)
Star pickets (with caps), electric tape, fence clips and battery

