WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS FOR HOUSEHOLD PETS: EVACUATION CHECKLIST

Simple tools you'll need to start building your pet's evacuation kit:

- ☐ Large bin or tote with a lid—preferably a waterproof type
- ☐ Clear waterproof sealable plastic bags in multiple sizes
- ☐ A Sharpie-style writing utensil for labeling and marking contents
- ☐ Note pad for documenting special details and needs
- ☐ Pen or pencil
- ☐ One or two flash drives to store copies of paperwork (Copying all the information outlined in the following sections onto a flash drive will provide access if you're evacuated and unable to take the kit due to limited time. Having a backup flash drive that you provide to a friend or relative, is also a good idea so you have an alternate copy if you're unable to take the primary one with you.)

The following items need to be included in each kit and also stored on your flash drive(s):

Pet Vaccination Records:

- ☐ Copies of all current vaccination records for each pet (NOTE: Your pet's most recent rabies registration tag needs to be attached securely to its collar.)

Medications:

- ☐ Keep a list of all current medicines and their associated doses. Your vet's office may also be evacuated or closed during a wildfire, so this information will be important.
- ☐ If possible, keep an extra supply of medicines that your pet takes on a regular basis. Ensure each is labeled with the pet's name and a description of that pet. If you have multiple pets consider enclosing a photo of the pet that needs the medication. Periodically check the expiration dates and replace as needed.

Special Needs Documentation:

- ☐ List of each pet's current physical disabilities or illnesses, emotional or behavioral problems, and how to deal with them
- ☐ Special feeding schedule/requirements
- ☐ Dietary restrictions
- ☐ Allergies

Ownership Records:

- ☐ Adoption records
- ☐ Registration paperwork
- ☐ Pet health insurance policies
- ☐ Municipal or county license tags and paperwork

Microchip Paperwork:

- ☐ Include copies of the animal's microchip paperwork. Update the address listed on the paperwork as needed to keep it accurate and current.
- ☐ Consider enrolling your microchipped pet(s) in a recovery database
- ☐ Verify your pet's microchip enrollment information with AKC Reunite 800-252-7894 or at http://www.akcreunite.org/petowner/petemergencyguide/

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Leash, Harness, and Collars:

- [ ] Have your phone number and address on an ID tag attached to the pet's collar. (NOTE: Since cell phones could be temporarily out of service in a wildfire, include a relative's phone number on the tag, too, just in case you and your pet get separated.)
- [ ] Leash
- [ ] Harness/gentle leader (if used by your pet)
- [ ] Collar

List of important pet related phone numbers:

Remember that cell phones and internet access could be temporarily out of service and you'll need a printed list to connect with these resources.

- [ ] Veterinarian
- [ ] Local animal control agency
- [ ] Animal shelter/boarding facility
- [ ] List of pet friendly hotels/motels near your community
- [ ] Friends that may be willing to temporarily take your pet while you're evacuated and out of your home
- [ ] Neighbors in your buddy system network (a "buddy system network" is a previously arranged shared process where neighbors evacuate each other's pets [if possible] when you're away from home during an evacuation)

Identification:

- [ ] Photos of you with your pet (can help identify you are the pet's owner when no physical records are available to claim your rescued animal)
- [ ] Photos of your pet that can help document any distinguishing characteristics that will be helpful in identifying a lost or missing pet

Pet food and treats:

- [ ] Food for 3 to 7 days
- [ ] If your pet eats canned food, include a manual can opener and spoon.
- [ ] Feeding bowl

Water:

- [ ] Pack enough clean water to meet each pet's individual needs for a minimum of 3 days and up to 1 week.
- [ ] Water bowls(s)

Miscellaneous items:

- [ ] Cat litter, tray, and scoop
- [ ] Bedding/blanket
- [ ] Toys
- [ ] Leather gloves and towels (in case your pet is upset or scared)
- [ ] Dog crate, cat carrier, or cage for birds and other small pets
- [ ] Muzzle (if needed)
- [ ] Grooming supplies
- [ ] Dog waste bags

Pet first aid kit and animal first aid book:

- [ ] Items should include cotton bandage rolls, bandage tape, scissors, antibiotic ointment, medical-type gloves, isopropyl alcohol, and saline solution.

Cleaning supplies:

- [ ] Paper towels, trash bags, spray cleaner, disinfectant, and hand sanitizer

Storing your kit:

- [ ] Keep your pet emergency kit in a dry location where the temperature does not get hot or below freezing.
- [ ] Make sure the kit is in a spot that's easy to reach for quick access when loading a car or truck.

Learn More

▶ **For more information** about preparing your household pets for an evacuation during a wildfire, visit NFPA.org/takeaction

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