## **Disaster Evacuation Kit**

Here are items to include in your disaster evacuation kit. Note that some of the recommended quantities of food may seem large, but it may be awhile before these items are available after you return home. Keep in mind that the surrounding areas, although not damaged, may be short of essential supplies.

- 1. Enough <u>water</u> (about one two-liter bottle per 35 pound pet, per day) and food to last at least a month. Water can be stored in rinsed two-liter soda bottles. Add a drop of bleach to each bottle; it's safe for your pets and helps keep the water sterile. Include two containers to water and feed your pet. You should have about 30 days worth of food stored.
- 2. Two months of medications for your pet.
- 3. Extra leashes, harnesses and collars.
- 4. Toys to entertain your pet, such as hard rubber chew toys for dogs. These toys last and can be stuffed with food to keep your dog interested.
- 5. Paper towels, odor neutralizer (best stored in a spray bottle for easy use) and zip type plastic bags. These will be used to clean any accidents your pet may have while traveling or at the destination.
- 6. A medical first aid kit, including:
  - 1. Roll bandages to dress wounds or make a temporary muzzle for a dog
  - 2. Gauze pads
  - 3. Vet wrap, used to hold gauze pads and roll bandages in place
  - 4. Antibiotic first aid cream for minor wounds
  - 5. Hydrogen peroxide to wash scratches
  - 6. Sanitary wipes to clean bowls, hands, etc.
  - 7. Flashlight and fresh batteries
  - 8. Cotton balls for cleaning
  - 9. Small scissors
  - 10. Tweezers
  - 11. Face cloth

When it becomes necessary, do not put off the decision to evacuate. You should ideally leave as soon as the situation seems bad and before evacuation advisories are issued. Make the necessary calls and leave. This will help to avoid an evacuation jam. If people are nervous or upset, pets can become upset and be more difficult to handle. Having a plan will help eliminate panic. As a pet owner, you must be safe in order to keep your pets safe.

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