

# Emergency Pet Preparedness Tips



Disasters and evacuations can happen at any time. Being prepared and ready to go will help you, your family and your pets stay safe in an emergency. Below are our tips to help you plan for emergencies.

1. Make sure that all your pets have **current** City of Los Angeles Licenses. (Dog/Equine). You can get a new license or renew your animal companion's existing license at <https://anionlinelicense.lacity.org/>

2. All your animal companions should be micro-chipped. Remember to update/verify info at least once a year! You can get your pets micro-chipped at any of the six LA City shelters. No appointments necessary!



3. All your companion animals should have up-to-date vaccinations.
4. Keep a copy of the following documents:
  - a. Vaccination records
  - b. Microchip information
  - c. Photos of your pets (showing your pet from the front, back, sides) and a photo of your pet with you
  - d. Pet Owner contact information (contact phone numbers and/or e-mail addresses)
  - e. Names and phone numbers of friends and relatives that you are allowing to care for your pet
  - f. Any relevant information on behavior, feeding, medication, and commands being used

Combine all this information, including the photos, and keep copies of it in the following:

- Upload to online cloud storage
- In a conspicuous place in your home (taped to a portable kennel)
- With a friend/family member you have listed as an emergency contact



5. Animal leashes and harnesses should be close by and ready to go.
6. Get a rolling backpack and store emergency supplies for your animals: pre-packaged food for several days, treats, medication, toys, and blankets. Make sure that perishable supplies (food and other perishable items) are replaced every three months.

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7. TRAIN, TRAIN & TRAIN: All animals need to be trained to get used to a portable kennel. If a disaster strikes or you have to evacuate, your animal must be comfortable to use a portable kennel. All of your animals should have access to a portable kennel. The kennel should be large enough for the animal to completely sit, stand upright, lie down, and extend all their limbs. Cat kennels should have extra space to house a litter box.



8. Equip each kennel with the animals' information and your personal information. Tape current vaccination records and other pertinent information to the kennel so it is readily available in an emergency situation. Boarding facilities will accept pets, but only if you have proof of current vaccinations.

9. Identify boarding facilities inside and outside of the City of Los Angeles. Make arrangements ahead of time, check out the facility, and identify requirements needed for boarding.

10. Check out hotels / motels in and outside the City of Los Angeles. They might accept pets during emergency situations. Pets inside kennels are accepted in most places.

11. Make emergency arrangements with friends/family members in and outside the City of Los Angeles.

12. If you have not done so, introduce yourself and your pets to your neighbor. If a disaster strikes and you are not home, your neighbor might be the only contact person that can assist with evacuating your pet/s. Remember: animals don't like strangers.

13. Large Animal Owners – Plan ahead: train your horse to load into a trailer, identify alternate ways that you can take your horse/s to nearby stables or other designated safety zones, and arrange for boarding at stables outside the City of Los Angeles.



14. LAAS can only provide evacuation sheltering for equines at (Los Angeles Fire Department) LAFD-identified mandatory evacuation areas. You, as the animal owner, are responsible to plan ahead and find alternative stables that can accept your animal in case of evacuation orders.