

APPENDIX B

“Hurricane Preparedness For Your Pet”

Pinellas County Animal Services

PET PROTECTION

Before a Hurricane Threatens

Kennel space will probably not be available and Hurricane Evacuation Shelters will not accept pets. YOU must plan for the evacuation and safety of your pets as part of your preparedness planning.

- There are more than 100 times more pets than kennel spaces in Pinellas County
- Typical County animal shelters (Animal Services, Humane Society, etc.) may not accept your pets. They will need their spaces to accept lost, distressed or wandering animals post-disaster.
- Make plans for your pets in advance. Contact friends/family outside of the evacuation area to board pets.
- An I.D. collar with a leash is a necessity! I.D. Implants or tattoos are a good idea. Contact your vet for information.
- Have a proper sized pet carrier for each pet.
- If you use a kennel, make sure it is outside of the evacuation zone.
- Make sure that pet's vaccinations are current. Many kennels will require proof of vaccinations.
 - Dogs: Rabies, distemper, Parvo group, Bordetella
 - Cats: Rabies, Feline Leukemia, Rhinotracheitis/calici virus, Panleukopenia
 - Horses: Rabies, EEE/VEC/WEE, Tetanus, NEG. Coggins

Large Animal Evacuation Sites:

Experience has proven that horses and livestock have a better chance for survival and reduced injury if turned out in clean pastures with native vegetation. WALSINGHAM PARK, 102nd Ave & 125th St in Largo, is a mid-county site ideal for this purpose.

During the Emergency:

Realize that there will be NO PICKUP of animals and public shelters will not accept pets. If you board you pet, make sure that it has the following:

- Leash, proper I.D. collar and rabies tag
- Clear I.D. marking on all belongings
- Carrier/cage
- Ample food supply (at LEAST 3 days)
- Water & food bowls
- Medications with dose instructions and prescription clearly written
- Specific care instructions for you pet clearly written out.
- Newspaper, litter, & plastic bags for waste handling & disposal

After the Emergency:

Chances are, things will be very different and chaotic after a disaster. Be cautious handling your pet. It will be scared, anxious, and/or excited and may scratch or bite. Be cautious in allowing your pet outdoors:

- Familiar scents & landmarks may be altered and your pet may get lost.
- Downed power lines, partially collapsed structures, uprooted trees, etc. are dangers to your pets.
- Reptiles, stray animals, displaced wildlife all may present life threats to your pet.
- Trash & garbage may be contaminated and may inadvertently poison pets.
- Food & water left out during the disaster may be contaminated with the same, poisonous results.

Animal Shelters:

Humane Society	3040 S.R. #590	Clearwater
SPCA	9099 130 th Ave N.	Largo
Pinellas County Animal Services	12450 Ulmerton Rd.	Largo
Friends of Strays	2911 47 th St. N.	St. Petersburg