

In the event of a hurricane, the safety of your family is important. If you and your loved ones have pets, you'll want to ensure that you've taken their needs into consideration ahead of time as well.

In many states, evacuation zones have pet-friendly evacuation centers available. As long as a family member can stay with your pets at all times, it's possible to bring your pets with you to these shelters.

Be sure to check with an evacuation center in advance to ensure that they allow pets, and they're still accepting them.

**Not all animals are accepted at pet-friendly evacuation centers. The following animals are eligible to stay at designated evacuation centers:**

- ✓ Dogs
- ✓ Cats
- ✓ Hamsters
- ✓ Guinea Pigs
- ✓ Rabbits
- ✓ Ferrets
- ✓ Gerbils
- ✓ Birds (Common Household)

**There is usually a per-household limit of 4 pets.**

## When arriving at an evacuation shelter with your pets:

- Ensure that pet ID tags are attached to their collars.
- Bring proof of your residency within that evacuation zone.
- Take food and supplies for your pet, including a leash, crate, and toys.
- Bring extra water for your pets. Don't underestimate how much water they may need if you're forced to remain at an evacuation center for several days or longer.
- Have pictures of your animal on hand in the event that you're separated from one of them.
- Be ready to show officials up-to-date-vaccination and medical records for your animals

## If you're riding out the storm at home with your pets:

- ✓ Be sure to keep them in a centrally located room with you at all times.
- ✓ Remember that storms can cause significant anxiety in animals.
- ✓ Be prepared to separate animals from one another if needed.
- ✓ Do your best to remain calm: the more relaxed you appear, the less anxious your animals are likely to become.