Disaster Kit Checklist

☐ Collar with tag(s) and a sturdy leash.

☐ ID tags, rabies tag, microchip ID and company contact information.

☐ Extra collars, harnesses and leashes.

☐ Any pet medications. (Ask your vet about keeping extra supplies or medication, or a copy of prescriptions for these medications in your kit. Be sure to replace medications before they expire.)

☐ Medical records and current vaccinations. (Boarding facilities and public shelter will not admit animals without current vaccines.)

☐ Current (less than a year old) photograph of each pet (with owner) to prove ownership if you are separated from your pet.

☐ Secure carrier, or collapsible cage for large dogs, for each pet and bedding. Carriers should be large enough for the animals to stand comfortably and turn around and house a litter box if appropriate. Allow your pets to become familiar with their carriers ahead of time so they will feel secure and comfortable in case they need to live in them for several days or even weeks after a storm.

☐ Food (at least a 2-week supply), stored in watertight containers in a cool, dry place.

☐ Water (at least a 2-week supply).

☐ Manual can opener.

☐ Cat litter, liners and a pan.

☐ Plastic trash bags to handle waste.

☐ Newspaper, paper towels and disinfectant for clean-up.

☐ Toys and any special comfort items that can fit in the crate with the animal.

☐ Muzzle, if necessary; Use extra precaution handling your pet, as in a disaster, they may not act normally.

☐ Out of area contact name and phone number.

Suncoast Humane Society
6781 San Casa Drive
Englewood, FL 34224

941-474-7884
humane.org
Plan

When disaster strikes, it is important to be prepared and stay calm to assess the situation. Use whatever you have on hand to take care of yourself and ensure your pet’s safety during an emergency. Never put yourself or others at risk. Do not attempt to rescue your pet if your life or health, or that of others, may be placed in danger. Depending on your circumstances and the nature of the emergency, the first decision is whether to stay put or get away. You should understand and plan for all possibilities.

In any emergency, local authorities may or may not immediately be able to provide information on what is happening and what you should do. However, monitor local news sources, listen to the radio, or check the internet for instructions.

Crate your dog or cat immediately. If you do not, your pet may sense danger, hide, and become more difficult to catch. If you plan to leave the area, even for a few hours, always bring your pet with you. You do not know when you may be able to return.

If it is unsafe for you to remain in your home, it is also unsafe for your pets. If you are told to evacuate, do so immediately. Arrangements should be made to either stay with family or friends who live in a safe location, stay at a pet-friendly hotel within a safe zone, or a pet-friendly shelter as a last resort.

Important Contacts

Sarasota County Call Center
941-861-5000
Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office Animal Services
941-861-9500
Charlotte County Animal Control
941-833-5690
Charlotte County Emergency Management
941-833-4000
Lee County Domestic Animal Services
239-533-7387 (LEE-PETS)
Suncoast Humane Society
941-474-7884

Pet-Friendly Shelters

**Sarasota County**
- Atwater Elementary School
  4701 Hunsville Ave., North Port
- Booker High School
  3201 N. Orange Ave., Sarasota
- Brookside Middle School
  3636 S. Shade Ave., Sarasota
- Fruitville Elementary School
  601 N. Honore Ave., Sarasota
- Gulf Gate Elementary School
  6500 S. Lockwood Ridge Blvd., Sarasota
- Heron Creek Middle School
  6501 W. Price Blvd., North Port

**Charlotte County**
- Harold Avenue Regional Park Recreation Center
  23400 Harold Ave, Port Charlotte
- Kingsway Elementary School
  23300 Quasar Blvd., Port Charlotte
- Liberty Elementary School
  370 Atwater St., Port Charlotte
- Neil Armstrong Elementary
  22100 Breezeswept Ave., Port Charlotte

Pet-Friendly Shelters

**Sarasota County**
- North Port High School
  6400 W. Price Blvd., North Port
- Phillippi Shores Elementary
  4747 S. Tamiami Trl., Sarasota
- Riverview High School
  1 Ram Way, Sarasota
- Southside Elementary School
  1901 Webber St., Sarasota
- Woodland Middle School
  2700 Panacea Blvd., North Port

**Charlotte County**
- Kingsway Elementary School
  23300 Quasar Blvd., Port Charlotte
- Liberty Elementary School
  370 Atwater St., Port Charlotte
- Neil Armstrong Elementary
  22100 Breezeswept Ave., Port Charlotte

1. **Identify Evacuation Locations**
   - Find places that can accommodate your pet(s) if you evacuate; consider pet-friendly hotels, kennels and/or loved ones
   - Write down these locations and store them with your disaster kit
   - Practice loading your animals into their carriers and into your vehicle

2. **Microchip and ID**
   - Microchips are the single most effective way to reunite lost pets and families
   - Update your microchip registration when you move, change phone numbers or get a new emergency contact
   - Secure a sturdy, legible ID tag on your pet’s collar, too

3. **Assemble Disaster Kit**
   - Assemble a kit for each animal in your household
   - Keep the kit(s) near an exit so they are easy to grab in case of an emergency
   - See the list included in this brochure for tips on what to include in your disaster kit

4. **Start A Buddy System**
   - Exchange keys and disaster plans with a friend or neighbor who can evacuate your animals if you are not home when disaster strikes
   - Give your buddy your pet’s information and your emergency contact information
   - Make sure your buddy is comfortable handling your animals