Disaster Planning Steps

1. Keep a collar and tag on those animals that should normally wear collars.
2. Identify several possible locations where you can take your animals, should you have to evacuate.
3. Start a buddy system with someone in your neighborhood, so they will check on your animals during a disaster, in the event you aren’t home.
4. In addition to your regular supply of animal food have at least a week’s supply on hand to be used during a disaster.
5. You should have at least a week’s supply of water in storage at all times for your animals.
6. Take several pictures of the animals and keep these pictures with your important insurance papers that you would take if you needed to evacuate.
7. Talk to your vet before a disaster strikes to see if he/she has a disaster plan.
8. Know where the animal shelters or animal rescue organizations are in your area.

Source: United Animal Nations – Keeping Companion Animals Safe During Disasters

Plan Ahead for An Evacuation

If evacuation is called for, evacuate your animals ahead of time. Make arrangements for someone to look after them until you can get them back home. DO NOT TAKE ANIMALS TO A HUMAN SHELTER – THEY ARE NOT ALLOWED! Contact C.A.R.T. for sheltering alternatives. As a last resort, if you cannot make proper preparations or have no warning, let the animal loose so it can get away from danger.

For more information:
Wayne County Cooperative Extension Eileen Coite (919) 731-1520
Wayne County Emergency Services Mel Powers (919) 731-1416
Wayne County Animal Control Justin Scally (919) 731-1439

What is C.A.R.T.?

The Wayne County Animal Response Team (C.A.R.T.) is intended for use by local government to minimize animal suffering in the event of a large scale emergency. This action will be aimed at all animals that may need help, whether such animals are owned, stray, domestic, or wild. Under these circumstances, C.A.R.T. will take immediate action to provide care for affected animals.
**Keep Vaccinations Up-To-Date**

Vaccinations must be done ahead of time to protect your animal if they are loose or around other animals in a disaster situation. The following are recommended vaccinations for your animals.

- **Dogs**
  - Distemper/Parvovirus Combination
  - Kennel Cough
  - Rabies
  - Heartworm Prevention

- **Cats**
  - Distemper/Upper Respiratory Viral Combination
  - Rabies
  - Leukemia

- **Horses**
  - Influenza
  - Rhinopneumonitis
  - EEE/EEE
  - Tetanus
  - Rabies
  - Strangles
  - Negative Coggins Test for EIA
  - West Nile

- **Cattle**
  - IBR
  - BVD
  - PI3
  - BRSV
  - Leptospirosis
  - H. Somnus
  - 7-way Clostridial

- **Sheep/Goats**
  - Tetanus
  - Enterotoxemia (Overeaters)

**Identification Tips**

- **CATS & DOGS** – Make sure your pet has an identification tag on their collar. Other forms of identification, such as microchips and tattoos, are available to you from your vet.

- **HORSES** – Make sure your horse has a halter with your name and phone number on it. Spray paint will also work on horses and other large animals without halters. Freeze branding, ID’s, and microchips are also available for horses.

- **LIVESTOCK** – Keep records of ear tag ID numbers. Tattoos and brands can also be used, but records must be kept up-to-date.

**Stay Informed Know About Types of Emergencies**

It is important to stay informed about what might happen and know what types of emergencies are likely to affect your region as well as emergency plans that have been established by your state and local government. For more information about how to prepare visit www.readync.org or call 1-800-BE-READY.