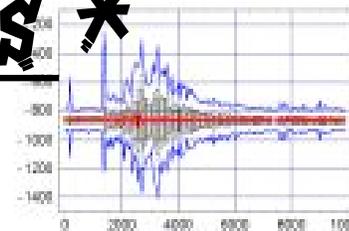


* Quake Tips For Pets *



Frequently we are reminded that we must be prepared for earthquake emergencies. We all have family earthquake kits. Please do not overlook your in house four-footed, finned or winged family members.

Be ready so your family and pets will be cared for in the event of an emergency of this nature. It is recommended that the supplies are sufficient to last for one week. Do not forget to periodically replace the supplies that have expiration dates.

Chances are electricity will be out after an earthquake. That means that information stored in our computers will not be accessible. Be sure to place on paper, and store with your pet supplies: Pet related phone numbers (your vet, an alternate vet, rescuers, pet adoption agencies, local shelters, emergency vet centers), list of pet's medications and their instructions (once a day, one pill, half a pill, etc.). Also make a listing of expiration dates both for food and medications.

Since quakes can happen when you are away from home, find a trusted neighbor who would be willing to evacuate your pets. This person should be comfortable with your pets and they with the person. They should know where your animals are likely to be, know where your quake supplies kit is kept (including carriers) and have a key to your home.

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1. One gallon of fresh water per cat or dog. Contaminated water supplies are harmful to pets, as well as humans. Extra water if you have fish to care for.
 2. A bag of pet's dry food. And/or cans of wet food. (Don't leave out bird food, rabbit, lizard, fish, etc.)
 3. A strong leash and collar. One that will not slip over pet's head, a harness is best for cats and small dogs. Be realistic and honest - dogs may bite, even their owners, when frightened. We suggest having a muzzle in your supplies just in case.
 4. A tie-out, and a ground anchor. (Chain, cable, or cotton-web long line attached to the ground anchor.)
 5. Plastic water and food bowls.
 6. Favorite toys and treats.
 7. Pet first-aid spray or ointment, and gauze wraps. The best thing would be to have a complete Pet First Aid Kit.
 8. If your pet is on special medication have some stored away as well.
 9. A large bag of litter, waste scooper, plastic bags, newspapers and a catbox. (These are good for cats, dogs, etc.)
 10. Towels or blankets for sleeping on. Also for wrapping a scared pet in. Pillow cases are handy too (some pets like to hide).
 11. Portable animal carrier to protect your pet from dangerous conditions, or to confine and injured pet. Most carriers can be adapted for birds and other small animals. Carriers can be used to store the items on this list until needed.
 12. For fish: Plastic fish bowls or clean buckets or a plastic storage container. A battery operated air pump (these are available - usually wherever fishing tackle supplies are sold), or water activated oxygen tablets. Water chemicals or salts, a net to catch fish and some fish antibiotics.
 13. Pet name tags. Your pet could get away from you if scared, include your phone number (cellular too, if you have one) and your vet's phone number, if you can not be reached your vet will have your pet's medical history and is a reliable second contact. Nowadays there is also I.D. tattoos and microchipping. A name tag mentioning the pet has a microchip or tattoo is suggested.
 14. Keep a copy of all your pet's documents with this kit. (License receipts, shot records, adoption papers, pet medication information, etc.) Pets can be lost - have current photos of your pets in your kit.
 15. What if you could not stay in your home? Do you have a pet barrier in your SUV? Your van? Room in your car for the carrier(s). If you open all the vehicles windows can the pet get out? We DO NOT recommend keeping your pet in your vehicle !!! They could die if the days are warm. Obtain an extra tent for your pets to stay in.
 16. Hot or cold weather conditions: Place under bedding - Hand warmers, available at sporting goods stores; Instant ice packs, available at drug or sporting goods stores.
 17. Follow the same guidelines as listed in the **California Earthquake Preparedness Handbook** and/or the **First Aid & Survival Guide** in the front of your phone book to help prepare your pet's first aid survival kit.