



Advice on caring for pets in emergencies

We understand that pets are an important part of any family, and that during an emergency they can easily become distressed. To help support pet owners care for their animals during an emergency, we have put together some advice which can help you care for your pets.

Planning for an evacuation with your pet.

- Ensure that all your pets and animals vaccinations, information cards and health records, are up to date and kept in a safe but easily accessible location. Possibly in a sealed waterproof bag.
- Plan for where your pets could be housed if necessary during and after any emergency. i.e. with friends and family.

During an emergency

- When you are notified of an emergency make sure that your pets are secured in a safe place to reduce the risk of them become frightened and running away.
- If the emergency is outside, bring them into the house with you.
- Ensure that your pets and animals are easily identifiable, and that where possible they are wearing a collar.
- When evacuating with your pet, secure them in a pet carrier, lead, or harness to ensure that they can be transported safely.
- If you are being evacuated, and are taking your pet with you, ensure you bring any medication, a portable amount of pet food and snacks, water and food bowls, pet information cards, health records, microchip numbers, bedding and blankets, and favourites toys. .
- If you cannot get back home during an emergency, ask a neighbour to check on your pet or bring them to you.
- If you are evacuating to a Peterborough City Council Rest Centre we will only have limited capacity to take household domestic pets for a temporary period of time. Rest Centre Staff will make every effort to help you re-accommodate your pet on a more permanent bases if necessary.

If you can't take your pet or animal with you

In some situations you may not be able to take your pet with you, or it may be safer for them to stay where they are for a period of time. In those situations you should consider the following:

- Try to leave any pets within a room with few windows and can be easily cleaned, such as a toilet, bathroom or utility room.
- Ensure you leave your pet with an adequate amount of food and water.
- In the event of flooding try to provide your pet with access to high areas.
- Tell friends and family where your pet is and what needs they have.
- Pet should not be tied up or have their movements restricted unnecessarily, as this may place them in a stressful and dangerous situation.
- If you are evacuating to a Peterborough City Council Rest Centre, tell our staff where the pet has been left.

If your pet is missing

- If your animal is missing check local animal shelters and boarding kennels. Take a recent photo with you to help identify your animal.
- Consider placing information on your missing pet on social media or websites such as <https://www.animalsearchuk.co.uk/>.
- If you are in a Peterborough City Council Rest Centre, inform our staff as we may be able to help you locate your pet.

Additional advice and support

The Royal Society for the Prevent of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA)

- Reporting animal cruelty - <https://www.rspca.org.uk/utilities/contactus/reportcruelty>
- Advice during flooding - <https://www.rspca.org.uk/adviceandwelfare/seasonal/floods>

Animal Search UK – missing pet organisation

- <https://www.animalsearchuk.co.uk/>

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

- Preparing for emergencies - <http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk/be-prepared-for-an-3222.aspx>