



Operation Kindness urges pet owners to prepare for disasters

National Animal Disaster Preparedness Day is May 8

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Carrollton, Texas) – Celebrating National Animal Disaster Preparedness Day today, the looming threat of natural disasters like hurricanes, tornadoes and wildfires underscores the importance of safeguarding not just ourselves but also our beloved pets. With the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration predicting three to six major hurricanes hitting the U.S. this year alone, it's crucial to be ready.

Preparing for such scenarios doesn't have to be overwhelming. By implementing a few proactive measures, you can significantly enhance the safety and well-being of your furry companions. North Texas animal welfare organization [Operation Kindness](#) urges the community to explore practical steps to ensure your pets are protected during emergencies.

"In times of crisis, our pets rely on us for safety and security," said CEO Ed Jamison. "By preparing ahead and staying calm, we can ensure their well-being and strengthen the bond we share with our pets."

Identification Tags and Microchipping: Ensure your pets wear identification tags containing your contact information. Additionally, consider microchipping them for added security. Operation Kindness emphasizes microchipping all pets before adoption, facilitating easy reunification in case of separation.

Current Photos: Keep recent photos of your pets, highlighting any unique features. These images can expedite the identification process if your pet goes missing during a crisis.

Appropriately Sized Carriers: Have sturdy carriers or crates readily available for each pet. Make sure they're spacious enough for your pets to stand, sit and turn around comfortably. Familiarize your pets with their carriers to ease evacuation procedures.

Medication and Vaccination: Stock up on a month's supply of your pet's medications and ensure their vaccinations are up to date. Take photos of their vaccine certificates for easy access during evacuation.

Safe Evacuation Destinations: Compile a list of pet-friendly hotels and alternative shelter options in advance. Planning ahead saves valuable time and reduces stress during emergencies.

Prepare a "Go Box": Create a designated emergency kit containing essential items such as cleaning supplies, first-aid kit, food, water and medication for your pets. This preparedness kit ensures you have everything you need for your pets' well-being.

Securing Your Home: Keep your pets indoors and secure all doors and windows. Designate a safe space within your home where your pets can remain during the disaster, making evacuation procedures smoother.

Maintain Calmness: Amidst the chaos of a natural disaster, staying calm is paramount. Your pets will pick up on your anxiety, so maintaining composure is essential for their emotional well-being.

By taking proactive steps and preparing for the unexpected, you can ensure the safety and security of your furry family members during times of crisis. Animal Disaster Preparedness Day serves as a reminder to prioritize our pets' well-being and implement measures to keep them protected in the face of adversity.

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About Operation Kindness

Operation Kindness, a 501(c)(3) non-profit animal welfare organization, operates a lifesaving animal shelter and programs to assist people and pets. Founded in 1976, Operation Kindness is a pioneer in Texas for assisting animals in need of veterinary care, companionship and most of all, a home.

In addition to pet adoptions and lifesaving medical care, Operation Kindness' programs provide foster care for vulnerable animals, behavior and training support for pet parents, affordable veterinary services for community pets, a pet food pantry, volunteer opportunities and professional training. To learn more about Operation Kindness, please visit their website at www.operationkindness.org.

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