

Microchips

A microchip is a permanent device that can identify your pets in case they become lost. A microchip is a rice-sized capsule encoded with a unique number. The microchip is painlessly injected (much like a vaccination) between the shoulder blades. Most pets do not react at all when the chip is inserted. A hand-held scanner reads the microchip to identify a pet by sending a low frequency radio signal to the chip that then transmits a code to the scanner. The code is linked to your information. Costs of the microchip and registration vary but can run as much as \$70.

Once your pet has a microchip, it's important to keep your information updated and non-local contact, with your vet and the microchip registry. Microchips remain active at least 25 years. In addition to micro-chipping, all pets should wear ID at all times. Tags should include a local contact, as well as an out-of-town number.

If your pet becomes lost, an ID tag can be your pet's first ticket home, but in the event that your pet loses its ID, a chip provides an extra level of protection. Providing your pet with both a tag and microchip can help if the unthinkable happens: your beloved pet gets lost.

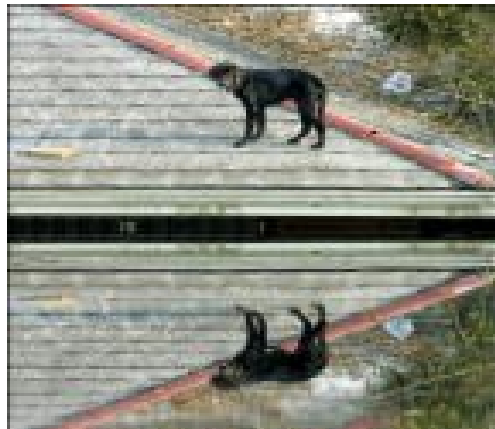
"It will never happen to me"

Disasters can strike anyone at any time. Each year, millions of people are affected by disasters like hurricanes.

Part of being a responsible pet owner is preparing for possible emergencies that could affect you *and* your pets.

Often you cannot prevent a disaster, but you *can* reduce its impact. Effective planning can lessen your suffering and reduce injuries. Planning ahead can be the difference between life and death.

This brochure is designed to assist you with tips to develop your own Disaster Preparedness Plan



Sponsors

- AVID - www.avidmicrochip.com
- Animal Services of Miami Dade County
- Humane Society of Greater Miami & Adopt-A-Pet
- KISS Country
- Miami Children's Museum
- Neighbors for Neighbors
- South Florida Veterinary Association

A community service project of



Leadership Miami is an annual program sponsored by the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce and several of Miami-Dade County's premier companies, local agencies and corporations. A key component of the program is a community service project that will make an impact on the Miami-Dade community for years to come.

Disaster Preparation Tips



What is the most important thing that people can do to protect their pets in an emergency?

Microchip!

Disaster Checklist and Tips

In advance of Hurricane Season

- _____ Check pet tags and update with contact information
- _____ Make sure vaccinations are current – All pets going to shelters must be vaccinated for rabies, distemper, hepatitis, leptospira, parvovirus, bordatella
- _____ If you live in an evacuation zone, plan now the location you and your pets will go

Shelter: _____

Phone Number _____

- _____ Pre-register your pet for a Miami-Dade pet shelter
- _____ Train your pet with a carrier in advance to prevent stress
- _____ Create “missing” posters in advance



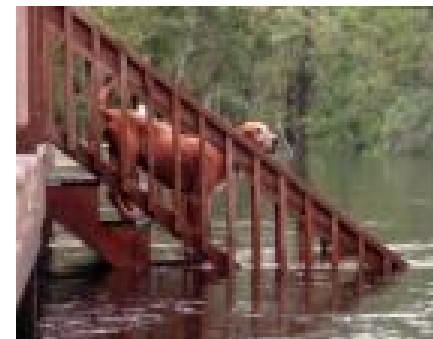
Can you get out of your house with your pet in 5 minutes? Be prepared!

- _____ Assemble your pet supplies in easy-to-carry, waterproof containers. Keep indoors and check periodically in case you need to replace expired food or medicine.
- _____ Mark everything with your pet's name, your name, phone
- _____ Note medications that your pet may use that are refrigerated and have to be gathered at the last minute.
- _____ 2 weeks supply of:
 - _____ Food – dry and canned with self-opening lids if possible
 - _____ Water
 - _____ Pet medications
- _____ No-spill food and water dishes
- _____ Cage/carrier (one for each pet, labeled)
- _____ Vet records, vaccination, diet & medication records (in zip-lock bag)
- _____ Rabies certificate with current license tag number
- _____ Proof of ownership
- _____ Emergency contact list (include someone out of state)
- _____ Photos of pet
- _____ Tattoo number or microchip number
- _____ Leash and collar (a harness is good if pet has to be carried or airlifted from a difficult location)

- _____ Stakes or tie-outs
- _____ Muzzle (or something you can make into a muzzle)
- _____ Favorite toy, treats or blanket to comfort pet
- _____ First aid kit
- _____ Cleaning supplies
 - _____ Paper towels
 - _____ Trash bags and twist ties
 - _____ Poop pick-up bags
 - _____ Disinfectant
 - _____ Gloves

After the storm

- _____ Check your yard for glass, debris and down power lines before letting your pet out
- _____ Check for reptiles or frogs that may have washed up from flooding and could possibly poison your pet
- _____ Check your fencing or take your pet on a lease
- _____ Don't let your pet drink water or eat food that may have been contaminated.
- _____ If you find a lost pet, report it immediately at 954-359-1313



Staying Home

Pets get scared, too; keep them where you can see them. Never leave your pet outside during the storm and never tranquilize your pet, unless they become dangerous.

Leaving your pet behind

Do not leave your pet behind. Experts suggest if you do, make sure your pet is in a bathroom with plenty of food (dry food they don't like much so they don't eat it all at once) and water that cannot be tipped over. Do not sedate a pet you are leaving, as they may need their instincts to survive.

Post a “rescue alert” listing your pets on the outside of your home, along with a permission slip giving permission to enter your home for your pet. Also, tie a permission note to your pet allowing treatment by a vet in your absence.

If your pet survives the storm, he could still escape through a broken window or door and become lost. Even a familiar neighborhood changes its landmarks and scents after a storm, which will disorient your pet.

