Great ShakeOut Message 8 – Your Furry Friends! Date: September 17, 2010

We’re talking about the four-legged ones, those “family members” who rely on us completely – our pets.

You can start a separate EP Bin for them, or add to your own, if there is room:
-- Water: The amount depends on the animals, but you should have enough for a week.
-- Food: Canned food lasts longer, but dry food could be sealed in heavy-duty zip-type bags.
-- Dishes for food and water.
-- Copy of your pet license and immunization record, along with a photo of your pets (Glamor shots optional and possibly worrisome…).
-- Collar and leash.
-- Medications: Those with short expiration dates should be stored near your own Medicine Grab Bag and clearly labeled.
-- Blanket.
-- Carrier: These can be big, so store it near your EP Bin.
-- Chew toys: Chewing on these can be soothing for pet.
-- Plastic bags to pick up droppings: You can buy this by the roll at pet stores.

Having a Pet Emergency Plan ready is important, especially if you are required to evacuate your home. IMPORTANT! In case you are away from home when a disaster strikes, make sure a trusted neighbor is familiar with your pets, knows how to handle them and where your Pet Emergency kit is! Don’t forget to give them a house key, too.

The following website has some great ideas. http://www.readyoc.org/residents/pet-plan.html

Your pets will love you whether you are prepared or not, but they enjoy their time with you so much more when you are.

Sue Fisher

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