

RESPONSE PHASE PRESS RELEASE
(e.g., 24-72 hours before a hurricane's predicted landfall)
FOR PEOPLE WITH DOMESTIC ANIMALS



From the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

Take care of your animals in an emergency.

Pets and livestock depend on their owners for care, before, during, and after an emergency. If you may have to evacuate, don't wait until the last minute to go, and take your pets with you.

Warnings of hurricanes or other disasters may be issued hours or even days, in advance. Leave with your pets while it is still safe to travel. DO NOT ATTEMPT TO EVACUATE DURING THE STORM ITSELF. ACT NOW!

1. Bring pets into the house and confine them there, so they are safe and you can leave with them quickly, if an evacuation is required.
2. Assemble disaster supplies, including a **Pet ID Pack** and **Go Kit**. These kits should include sufficient supplies to care for your pet and to minimize the threat to others:
 - Include at least a three-day supply of food and water, medication, litter, cleaning supplies, identification, health records, a carrier or crate for each pet, and restraints (collars, leashes, muzzles).
 - Make sure each animal and its carrier have weatherproof, up-to-date identification, health, and contact information. Include contact information for yourself, for your relocation site, and for a "buddy" who lives a safe distance away and who knows you and your animals.
3. If possible, call ahead to reconfirm a safe place for you and your pets to go and stay during the emergency.
4. If you are ordered to evacuate or if you are not sure what to do and it's still safe to travel, evacuate immediately with your pets. Identify your animals clearly and take them – with restraints and supplies, including a **Pet ID Pack** and **Go Kit** – to your pre-arranged place.
5. For more information – on-line advice tailored to different types of animals, preparing ID Packs and Go Kits, where to go, and what to bring with you – see [Advice for Animal Owners Facing a Disaster](http://www.dem.ri.gov/animals/), <<http://www.dem.ri.gov/animals/>>.