

Pawsitive Press

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Celebrating 60 Years



THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

Hurricane Planning

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Summer has arrived, and with all the fun in the sun also comes a risk of hurricanes. Not only do we worry for ourselves, but also for our family pets. If the weather is not safe for us, it is not safe for our furry family members either.



Where can my pets and I go in the case of a hurricane evacuation?

Unfortunately, most emergency shelters do not allow pets due to risk of people being allergic or bitten, and pets fighting, and even lack of room or facilities. Check with your local emergency management officials to see if exceptions are made for service pets. It is recommended to research pet friendly hotels in neighboring counties and states that will be on your evacuation route. Make sure

to ask if they have any breed or weight/size restrictions, and if so if these are waived during an evacuation. Print this list and place it in your vehicle or with other important pet documents.

What types of supplies should I pack for my pet if we evacuate?

Having appropriate supplies that are easily accessible and in a storage place so you don't have to rearrange things to get to them in an emergency. A carrier is a necessary item, for both cats and dogs. Go ahead and label it, ideally with something waterproof. Try to bring your pet's bed, blanket, or toy so that there is something calming and familiar to them. Having plastic or stainless steel food and water bowls, as well as enough food to last a week at minimum is advised. Dry food has advantages over canned food because you don't need to keep food cool. However canned food is obviously waterproof, and if you have multiple pets,

there really won't be leftovers to refrigerate. Bottled water for you and your pets is necessary. Be sure to take at least 1 gallon per pet per day when traveling or staying home. It is recommended to take some water with you as hurricanes can be unpredictable and traffic can be bad. You may need it in the car before reaching the hotel. Pack current vaccine records with you, and your pets' rabies certificates, microchip numbers, recent photo, medication instructions, etc. If your pet is on medication that requires refrigeration, such as insulin, pack cooler and contact local emergency organizations like the Red Cross for ice. Place all important documents in a waterproof container or bag. Take additional leashes and collars and have them ready for when take your pet in and out of the carrier. Try to do that in a safe, secure environment, especially when dealing with cats. If traveling far with your cat, the goal is to have a carrier big enough to fit a small litter box, bowls, and still have room for the cat to lie down.

Hurricane Continued

Should I get my pet microchipped just in case?

Yes! Living in Florida my entire life with pets, I strongly advise having your pet microchipped regardless of if you are in an evacuation zone. Many pets can be displaced from their families during flooding or tornadoes.

Whether traveling from an evacuation zone or staying in your home, pets can escape or lose their collar, a microchip will provide them some form of identification for people to locate you. The microchip is about the size of a grain of rice and goes underneath the skin between the shoulder blades. Veterinary clinics and shelters have scanners to read the number. Then we call the appropriate association to help locate your information so that we can reunite you and your pet.

So, in summary, just like the Boy Scout motto: "Always be prepared." Following these suggestions will hopefully aid in increasing the safety for you and your pet during this hurricane season. If you need any further information or have any questions, please feel free to contact us at the Animal Hospital of Dunedin.

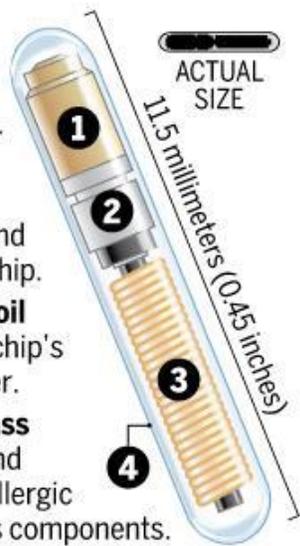


HOW A PET MICROCHIP WORKS

Veterinarians can implant these tiny devices in all kinds of pets – including cats, dogs, birds and reptiles. Each chip carries a unique number that is linked in an online database to the name and contact information of the pet's owner.

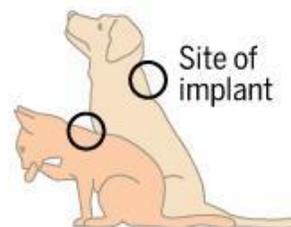
KEY PARTS

1. **Microchip** holds the unique ID number.
2. **Tuning capacitor** receives power from an external scanner and sends it to the microchip.
3. **Copper antenna coil** then transmits microchip's information to scanner.
4. **Biocompatible glass capsule** – nontoxic and designed to prevent allergic reactions – surrounds components.



IMPLANTATION

A needle is used to inject the chip between a dog or cat's shoulder blades. The procedure does not require anesthesia.



REGISTRATION

The pet and its owner are enrolled in a database, either by mail or on the Internet. But owners must keep their contact information up to date for the system to work properly.

DETECTION

The chip has no battery. It is energized by the radio waves of handheld scanners used by animal shelters and veterinarians.



*****Take a minute to go over the following webpages for more information on evacuation zones, routes, shelters, and hotels.*****

<http://www.stpete.org/hurricane/evacuation.asp>

<http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/petpreparedness.htm>

<http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/knownyourzone.htm>

A Basic Disaster Kit

- ✓ Food and water for at least five days for each pet, bowls and a manual can opener if you are packing canned pet food. People need at least one gallon of water per person per day. While your pet may not need that much, keep an extra gallon on hand if your pet has been exposed to chemicals or flood waters and needs to be rinsed.
- ✓ Medications and medical records stored in a waterproof container and a first aid kit. A pet first aid book is also a good idea.
- ✓ Cat litter box, litter, litter scoop, garbage bags to collect all pets' waste.
- ✓ Sturdy leashes, harnesses, and carriers to transport pets safely and to ensure that your pets can't escape. Carriers should be large enough to allow your pet to stand comfortably, turn around, and lie down. (Your pet may have to stay in the carrier for hours at a time.) Be sure to have a secure cage with no loose objects inside it to accommodate smaller pets—who may also need blankets or towels for bedding and warmth as well as special items, depending on their species.
- ✓ Current photos of you with your pets and descriptions of your pets to help others identify them in case you and your pets become separated—and to prove that they are yours once you're reunited.
- ✓ Pet beds and toys, if you can easily take them, to reduce stress.
- ✓ Written information about your pets' feeding schedules, medical conditions, and behavior issues along with the name and number of your veterinarian in case you have to board your pets or place them in foster care.
- ✓ Other useful items include newspapers, paper towels, plastic trash bags, grooming items, and household bleach.



If You Stay Home, Do It Safely

If your family and pets must wait out a storm or other disaster at home, identify a safe area of your home where you can all stay together. Make that safe area animal friendly:

- ✓ Close off or eliminate unsafe nooks and crannies where frightened cats may try to hide.
- ✓ Move dangerous items such as tools or toxic products that have been stored in the area.

Be sure to close your windows and doors, stay inside, and follow the instructions from your local emergency management office.

- ✓ Bring your pets indoors as soon as local authorities say trouble is on the way. Keep pets under your direct control; if you have to evacuate, you will not have to spend time trying to find them. Keep dogs on leashes and cats in carriers, and make sure they are wearing identification.
- ✓ If you have a room you can designate as a "safe room," put your emergency supplies in that room in advance, including your pet's crate and supplies. Have any medications and a supply of pet food and water inside watertight containers, along with your other emergency supplies. If there is an open fireplace, vent, pet door, or similar opening in the house, close it off with plastic sheeting and strong tape.
- ✓ Listen to the radio periodically, and don't come out until you know it's safe.



*Do you have one of these stickers on the windows of your home? If not, follow this link to get some!

https://www.aspcanet.org/form/free-pet-safety-pack?utm_expId=2762157-11.jT0OJWgoTL

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We're on the Web!
www.ahofd.com



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2 Months Free Advantage Multi

(\$36.00 - \$42.00 savings)

Buy one 6 pack of Advantage Multi and get 2 months same size free. Patient must have been seen by a doctor at the Animal Hospital of Dunedin within the past year. May not be combined with any other offer. Coupon must be presented at the time of purchase.

Expires 07/31/14 NL



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\$25

Home Again Microchip

(\$30.40 Savings)

Present this coupon to receive a Home Again microchip implantation, lifetime registration and one year of advanced benefits from Home Again. Call the office today to schedule your cat or dog. 727-733-9351 May not be combined with any other special offers or coupons. Coupon must be presented at the time of purchase.

Expires 07/31/14 NL



Animal Hospital
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Caring for Pets with Love and Kindness

\$10/\$25 Mail in Rebate

Any Size Trifexis

Purchase 6 months and receive a \$10 mail-in rebate. Purchase 12 months of Trifexis and receive a \$25 mail in rebate. The rebate form will be filled out and mailed in by our staff and Elanco will mail a check directly to your home. By law, pets must have been seen in our office within the last 12 months and should have a negative heartworm test. Coupon must be presented at the time of purchase.

Expires: 7/31/14 NL