



## **Middleburg American Legion Post 250 Recommended Disaster Prep For Pets**



### **PROTECT YOUR PETS**

*Many people have companion pets which they don't want to leave during an emergency. People have died during hurricanes because they would not leave their pets.*

- **Pets are not allowed in evacuation shelters, except for guide dogs. Shelters have large numbers of people and limited facilities, and pets become a safety and public health concern.**
- **You should plan about what to do with your pet in an emergency.**
- **Board your pet in a kennel in a safe location. Long before a hurricane strikes, call kennels and veterinarians in several different areas to learn what emergency arrangements they offer. Some humane societies also provide emergency shelters but call to make sure. Pets housed in kennels should come with their own food.**
- **Update your pet's immunizations. Kennels will not except pets that are behind on shots. Keep the paperwork documenting immunization in the important papers you are collecting as part of your disaster planning.**
- **Take your pet with you if you do not need to go to a shelter. Have carrying cages for each pet and bring food, a toy, blanket, leash, and medications.**
- **Have current identifications on each pet so you can be reunited if separated. Cats and dogs wear collars, birds have bands and snakes and lizards can be tattooed.**



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- **Exotic pets are best left with friends or relatives outside the storm threatened area. They do not do well in evacuation. If they are accidentally set free they can die or cause other problems**
- **Leave your pet at home alone only as a last resort. Leave it with food and water for several days in a secure area of your home, away from windows and with access to high places such as counter tops or bed in case of flooding. If this is your only option, be sure the pet is placed in an interior room. Do not leave cats and dogs together, no matter how friendly they normally are.**
- **Livestock, like horses, can be left in open pastures.**