

# EMERGENCY EVACUATION



Texas Extension Education Association  
Waco, Texas  
September 2015  
Connie Troxell, District 5 Education Chair  
Patrice Dunagin, CEA-FCS, Smith County

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## Information for the Presenter

### Program Objectives:

1. To help you evaluate your needs in a disaster.
2. To make you aware of resources that could help you in a disaster.
3. To help you prepare to evacuate your home in a disaster.

### Preparation:

- Read the materials to become familiar with the presentation.
- Obtain copies of publication B-6178 *Preparing for the Unexpected*. Contact your County Extension Agent, the booklet is available through the AgriLife Bookstore to download or order.
- If using the PowerPoint presentation, obtain access to a computer and projector. If necessary, check with your County Extension Agent for assistance.

# Emergency Evacuation

What to do...

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Where will you go in an emergency evacuation? It could happen---due to a tornado, flood, chemical spill, or fire.

Do you have a survival kit ready to grab?

Where are your necessary documents?

Medications? Doctor's phone numbers?



## Objectives

- To help you think about your needs in a disaster
- To help you prepare to evacuate your home in a disaster
- To make you aware of resources that could help you in a disaster

## Do You Stay or Do You Go?

- Shelter in Place
  - Remain where you are when shelter order is given
  - Listen to local authorities
  - Use common sense
  - Be prepared for loss of utilities
- Evacuate
  - Listen to local authorities
  - Evacuate immediately if directed by officials
  - Grab your disaster kit
  - Use routes specified by authorities

If a disaster occurs in your community, local government and disaster-relief organizations try to help you. But you need to be ready as well. Local responders may not be able to reach you immediately, or they may need to focus their efforts elsewhere.

Being prepared and understanding what to do can reduce fear, anxiety and losses that accompany disasters. Communities, families and individuals should know what to do in a fire and where to seek shelter in a tornado.

Some conditions may require that you shelter-in-place. This means taking protection in your home, place of employment, school or other location you are when disaster occurs. How you should shelter-in-place depends strictly on the type of emergency situation. Listen to local officials on how to shelter-in-place and remain there until they tell you that it is safe to leave.

Some disasters will require that you leave your home or wherever you are immediately. If local officials ask you to evacuate, do so immediately. Authorities will not ask you to leave unless they have determined that lives may be in danger.

## Disaster supply kit

- Enough supplies for at least 3 days
- Water, food, clothing, and blankets
- Infant supplies
- Clean air items
- First aid
- Emergency items



One of the most important preparedness activities is to compile a disaster supply kit. Whether you shelter-in-place or evacuate, there are basic supplies and tools you will need to sustain yourself until help arrives.

Every disaster supply kit should have enough supplies to enable you and your family to take care of yourselves without outside help for at least 3 days.

Water, food, clothing, toiletries, pillows, and blankets will be part of your supply kit.

Infants – Pack bottles, baby wipes, diapers, diaper rash ointment, formula, medication, baby food, and several changes of clothing.

Clean air items – in the case of an explosion, you may need to create a barrier between yourself and the airborne contamination. Pack nose and mouth protection masks (N-95 rating), plastic sheeting and duct tape.

First aid – two pairs of sterile gloves, sterile gauze, soap, antibiotic towelettes, antibiotic ointment, burn ointment, adhesive bandages, thermometer, prescription medications, dentures, contact lenses, extra glasses, and prescribed medical supplies.

Emergency items - Battery powered radio, flashlights, extra batteries, a whistle, shovel, basic tools, baby wipes, garbage bags, toilet paper, and a state map.

## What do I need?

- Food
- Water
- Clothing
- Pillows and blankets
- Medications



### Food:

Make sure the foods in your kit are foods you and your family normally eat and like. Gather and pack foods that travel well and do not require refrigeration or cooking. Take enough food for at least three days. Examples include – protein or fruit bars, dried fruit, nuts, peanut butter, crackers, canned juices. If you are on a special diet – gather and pack the foods you require. Include a hand operated can opener if you are packing canned goods.

### Water:

Take bottled water for your trip and more if your destination is uncertain. Pack enough water for at least 3 days; each person requires one gallon per day.

### Clothing:

Take comfortable clothing, underclothes, shoes, socks, pajamas for at least three days.

Pillows and blankets – take one pillow and one blanket per person

### Medications:

Gather all your medications, doctors' contact information, and over the counter products you use regularly. If you have frequent or life threatening allergies, gather and pack all the products you use for that.



## Cell phones

- Car charger
- Apps for scanning



Cell phones:

Put your car charger in your car.

Adding information to your cell phone: Scanning important documents into your phone will allow you to have the items you need at your finger tips without carrying more items.

Search for apps that will help you scan documents.



## Important documents

- What are your important documents?
- Scan or take your important documents
- Pictures of home, jewelry, and important possessions
- TEEA *Necessary Documents* program



Important documents:

What are important documents?

Think about all the important papers you keep in your home---if you are evacuating, you might want to have copies of medications, insurance policies, driver's license or photo ID, bank account information, credit card information, inventory of home possessions.

Scan them to your phone, a thumb drive, or bring them with you.

You won't have much time when an emergency arises, so prepare many of these things in advance.

You definitely won't have time to take pictures of valuable items in your home----this is something that must be done before an emergency arises.

If your club has not participated in the **Necessary Documents TEEA program**, arrange for a member to lead the lesson for the group. (available on TEEA website) If you have, you should have your documents in order and a copy for your disaster supply kit!

# Evacuation

- Fuel
- Travel route; [www.drivetexas.org](http://www.drivetexas.org)
- Map or GPS
- Destination
- Phone numbers
- Contact person
- 211



Fuel – keep at least a half tank of gas in your vehicle at all times in case you need to evacuate. During a disaster, power outages may be widespread. Gas pumps will not operate without electricity so you may need to travel some distance before you are able to refuel.

Travel route – let others know what route you plan to travel and what your destination point will be.

Will you be using a paper map or GPS? Make sure you have what you need. Before leaving home, check TxDOT's DriveTexas.org website for road conditions and road closures.

Destination – Will you be meeting other family members at your destination point? Make sure you have the correct destination. Will you need a hotel reservation? Try to call ahead.

Phone numbers – Do you have all the numbers you will need? Are they in your cell phone? Do you keep them in an address book, if so bring it with you.

Contact person: everyone should have at least one person they are making aware of their evacuation, route, and destination.

Call 211 to locate disaster shelters.

## Stay Informed

- Radio – NOAA
- TV
- Cell phone



### News:

Keep up to date on the news and what is happening with the situation. This can help you choose the best route to your destination if you are told or decide to evacuate.

It is highly recommended that you have a radio with NOAA - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association – weather channels.

Using a battery operated radio?----make sure you have extra batteries. Many weather radios are now solar powered or have a crank for recharging the battery and have the ability to charge cell phones. Make sure you have any necessary adaptors to be able to use the cell charging capability.

## Emergency personnel

- Unable to communicate
- ICE



### Emergency personnel:

If you are injured and unable to communicate with emergency medical technicians; they will look for your cell phone for clues to your identity and emergency contacts. Make their job easier by adding the entry ICE in your contact list. This stands for “In Case of Emergency”. Add an entry, label it ICE, and enter the name and number of the person you want contacted in emergencies.

## Pets

- Motels and pets
- Pet supplies
- Photograph of your pet
- Vaccination records



Check with motels to see if they will take your pet. [www.petswelcome.com](http://www.petswelcome.com) is a pet-friendly hotel search web site. If you live in an area where you might be evacuated – like the Gulf Coast – it’s a good idea to locate a pet friendly hotel or shelter prior to hurricane season so you can make a reservation and know where you are headed.

Pet supplies – food, water, crate, medications, bedding ,vaccination records, etc. In most cases, if you are evacuating to a shelter, you will need to bring your own crate. The pet shelter is usually not in the same facility as the people shelter, but close enough that you will be able to take care of your own pet. Even hotels/motels will likely require you to leave your pet in a crate if you leave it alone in your room.

Take a photograph of your pet, just in case you are separated. Attach a copy to your pet’s crate along with your contact information – where you can be located.

Keep copies of your pet’s vaccination records with you. You will need to show these in order to leave your pet in a pet shelter.



## Special needs population

- Elderly
- Disabled
- Chronically ill
- Hearing impaired
- Visually impaired



Call 211 to register for evacuation and transportation assistance for the elderly, disabled individuals, chronically ill, hearing or visually impaired.

For some people there will be additional precautions:

Hearing impaired – you may have to make special arrangements to send warnings

Mobility impaired – may need special assistance to get to a shelter

Single working parent – may need help in planning and preparing for a disaster or emergency

Non English speaking people – may need the help of their community or cultural group to stay informed and prepared

People without vehicles – may need help making arrangements for transportation

People with special dietary needs – will need to make sure that your emergency food supply is appropriate for your needs

People with medical conditions - will need to consult with your pharmacist about storing extra medications. Also, contact your physician to get an extra copy of your prescriptions for your supply kit, or include contact information for your pharmacy in case you need replacement medications while evacuated.

# Cash

- Carry cash



Carry cash in a safe place – on your person or in your wallet or purse. When storing cash in your disaster kit, keep it in a sealed plastic bag or container. In the event of power outages, gas pumps, ATM's and cash registers will not be working without generators and you will need cash to make purchases. It is recommended that you have at least \$200-\$300 in cash depending on the size of your family and the extent of the disaster.



## Maintain kits

- Replenish kits
- Check expiration dates
- Mark your calendar as a reminder



Replenish your kits as necessary. Check your kit twice a year. One system would be to mark your calendar for January and June, or whenever you replace batteries in your smoke detector, and check your kit at that time. Rotate food items out of your kit and into your pantry for use on a regular basis. Replace them with fresh items. Watch expiration dates. Don't forget to check your first aid kit and replenish items you may have used. Make sure you have fresh batteries in your kit and in radios, flashlights and other battery powered devices.

## Resources

- Texas Eden (Extension Disaster Education Network)  
<http://texashelp.tamu.edu>
- Texas Department of Public Safety – Texas Division of  
Emergency Management [www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem)
- Texas Department of Transportation – Highway  
conditions [www.drivetexas.org](http://www.drivetexas.org)

# Questions

- Presented by Connie Troxell, Smith County EEA Chairman and TEEA Education Chair



# Preparing for Your Pets Makes Sense. Get Ready Now.



If you are like millions of animal owners nation wide, your pet is an important member of your household. The likelihood that you and your animals will survive an emergency such as a fire or flood, tornado or terrorist attack depends largely on emergency planning done today. Some of the things you can do to prepare for the unexpected, such as assembling an animal emergency supply kit and developing a pet care buddy system, are the same for any emergency. Whether you decide to stay put in an emergency or evacuate to a safer location, you will need to make plans in advance for your pets. Keep in mind that what's best for you is typically what's best for your animals.

If you must evacuate, take your pets with you if possible. However, if you are going to a public shelter, it is important to understand that animals may not be allowed inside. Plan in advance for shelter alternatives that will work for both you and your pets.

Make a back-up emergency plan in case you can't care for your animals yourself. Develop a buddy system with neighbors, friends and relatives to make sure that someone is available to care for or evacuate your pets if you are unable to do so. Be prepared to improvise and use what you have on hand to make it on your own for at least three days, maybe longer.

Preparing for the unexpected makes sense. **Get Ready Now.**



This information was developed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in consultation with:  
American Kennel Club, The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, American Veterinary Medical Association, and The Humane Society of the U.S.



## Preparing Your Pets for Emergencies Makes Sense. Get Ready Now.



# Homeland Security

[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)



# 1 Prepare

Get a Pet Emergency Supply Kit.

Just as you do with your family's emergency supply kit, think first about the basics for survival, particularly food and water. Consider two kits. In one, put everything you and your pets will need to stay where you are. The other should be a lightweight, smaller version you can take with you if you and your pets have to get away. Plus, be sure to review your kits regularly to ensure that their contents, especially foods and medicines, are fresh.

**Food.** Keep at least three days of food in an airtight, waterproof container.

**Water.** Store at least three days of water specifically for your pets in addition to water you need for yourself and your family.

**Medicines and medical records.** Keep an extra supply of medicines your pet takes on a regular basis in a waterproof container.

**First aid kit.** Talk to your veterinarian about what is most appropriate for your pet's emergency medical needs. Most kits should include cotton bandage rolls, bandage tape and scissors; antibiotic ointment; flea and tick prevention; latex gloves, isopropyl alcohol and saline solution. Include a pet first aid reference book.

**Collar with ID tag, harness or leash.** Your pet should wear a collar with its rabies tag and identification at all times. Include a backup leash, collar and ID tag in your pet's emergency supply kit. In addition, place copies of your pet's registration information, adoption papers, vaccination documents and medical records in a clean plastic bag or waterproof container and also add them to your kit. You should also consider talking with your veterinarian about permanent identification such as microchipping, and enrolling your pet in a recovery database.

**Crate or other pet carrier.** If you need to evacuate in an emergency situation take your pets and animals with you provided that it is practical to do so. In many cases, your ability to do so will be aided by having a sturdy, safe, comfortable crate or carrier ready for transporting your pet. The carrier should be large enough for your pet to stand, turn around and lie down.

**Sanitation.** Include pet litter and litter box if appropriate, newspapers, paper towels, plastic trash bags and household chlorine bleach to provide for your pet's sanitation needs. You can use bleach as a disinfectant (dilute nine parts water to one part bleach), or in an emergency you can also use it to purify water. Use 16 drops of regular household liquid bleach per gallon of water. Do not use scented or color safe bleaches, or those with added cleaners.



**A picture of you and your pet together.** If you become separated from your pet during an emergency, a picture of you and your pet together will help you document ownership and allow others to assist you in identifying your pet. Include detailed information about species, breed, age, sex, color and distinguishing characteristics.

**Familiar items.** Put favorite toys, treats or bedding in your kit. Familiar items can help reduce stress for your pet.

# 2 Plan

What You Will Do in an Emergency.

Be prepared to assess the situation. Use whatever you have on hand to take care of yourself and ensure your pet's safety during an emergency. Depending on your circumstances and the nature of the emergency the first important decision is whether you stay put or get away. You should understand and plan for both possibilities. Use common sense and the information you are learning here to determine if there is immediate danger. In any emergency, local authorities may or may not immediately be able to provide information on what is happening and what you should do. However, watch TV, listen to the radio or check the Internet for instructions. If you're specifically told to evacuate, shelter-in-place or seek medical treatment, do so immediately.

**Create a plan to get away.** Plan how you will assemble your pets and anticipate where you will go. If you must evacuate, take your pets with you if practical. If you go to a public shelter, keep in mind your animals may not be allowed inside. Secure appropriate lodging in advance depending on the number and type of animals in your care. Consider family or friends willing to take in you and your pets in an emergency. Other options may include: a hotel or motel that takes pets or a boarding facility, such as a kennel or veterinary hospital that is near an evacuation facility or your family's meeting place. Find out before an emergency happens if any of these facilities in your area might be viable options for you and your pets.

**Develop a buddy system.** Plan with neighbors, friends or relatives to make sure that someone is available to care for or evacuate your pets if you are unable to do so. Talk with your pet care buddy about your evacuation plans and show them where you keep your pet's emergency supply kit. Also designate specific locations, one in your immediate neighborhood and another farther away, where you will meet in an emergency.

# 3 Stay Informed

Know About Types of Emergencies.

Some of the things you can do to prepare for the unexpected, such as assembling an emergency supply kit for yourself, your family and your pets, is the same regardless of the type of emergency. However, it's important to stay informed about what might happen and know what types of emergencies are likely to affect your region as well as emergency plans that have been established by your state and local government. For more information about how to prepare, visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) or call 1-800-BE-READY.

Be prepared to adapt this information to your personal circumstances and make every effort to follow instructions received from authorities on the scene. With these simple preparations, you can be ready for the unexpected. Those who take the time to prepare themselves and their pets will likely encounter less difficulty, stress and worry. Take the time now to get yourself and your pet ready.

**Preparing for Your Pets Makes Sense. Get Ready Now.**







Texas Extension Education Association, Inc.  
Emergency Evacuation Evaluation

Please take a moment to provide feedback on this program.

1. Regarding the **overall program/teaching** (rate your response by circling a number):

Statement	Scale (1= Worst, 5 = Best)				
The value of the lesson was	1 not valuable	2	3	4	5 very valuable
The overall teaching was	1 poor	2	3	4	5 excellent
The teacher's knowledge of the lesson was	1 poor	2	3	4	5 excellent

2. Regarding **what you know and actions you plan to take** (circle your response):

- I learned new information today. YES NO
- I plan to use the information I learned today. YES NO
- I feel this information will help in an emergency. YES NO
- I think I now know how to prepare to evacuate. YES NO
- I know how to start preparing for a future emergency. YES NO

3. This lesson was delivered by a(n) (check only one):

\_\_\_\_\_ TEEA Member. \_\_\_\_\_ Extension Agent/Specialist \_\_\_\_\_ Other Speaker.

4. Please tell us about yourself.

I am a \_\_\_\_\_ Woman. \_\_\_\_\_ Man.

I am in District: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

I have been a member of TEEA for \_\_\_\_\_ years.

My age is \_\_\_\_\_ years-old.

5. Additional Comments.

Thank You For Completing This Form!