

HURRICANE SEASON HAS BEGUN . . . DOES YOUR DISASTER PLAN INCLUDE YOUR PET?



FRIDAY FACTS FROM BARRIO DOGS

▶ DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Each year, an average of ten storms form in the Atlantic, Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico. Six of those become hurricanes. Help your four-legged family members weather the storm by taking these steps to prepare:

- Make sure your pet is wearing a collar with identification tags and has a microchip with up-to-date registration. This makes it easier to reunite with them if you get separated.
- If you evacuate – **take your pet with you**. This means that you will need to find a safe place for you and your pet to stay – before you leave. Contact emergency officials and find out what the policy is for pets at local shelters and/or find out what hotels welcome your furry friends.
- If you decide to stay home, make sure you are safe and prepared. Pets should stay inside with you and they will need plenty of food, clean drinking water and medications to last throughout the storm.
- Prepare a disaster kit. Your pet's disaster kit should include:
 1. food and water for at least 5 days,
 2. medications and medical records,
 3. cat box and litter,
 4. sturdy leashes, harnesses, and carriers,
 5. a current photo of your pet,
 6. written information about your pet's needs, including any behavioral issues and the name and phone number of your veterinarian.

With preparation and good luck, we will all successfully weather the upcoming storm season!

FOR MORE INFO: [HTTPS://WWW.ASPCA.ORG/PET-CARE/GENERAL-PET-CARE/DISASTER-PREPAREDNESS](https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/disaster-preparedness)