

PET EMERGENCY EVACUATION KIT

Heather Tilley has written this helpful guide based on her experiences from Black Saturday about things that could have made it easier for pets and their owners.

- Food for each pet
- Collapsible or small water bowl
- Bottle(s) of water
- 1 week supply of any required medication
- Single piece of paper for each pet with pet and owner details, your regular vet's details, any important medical history and microchip number (ensure contact details are up to date with the microchip registry).
- Vaccination certificate
- Towel/Blanket
- Brush/comb
- Lead and collar with identification tag
- Cage for any small dogs/cats and crates for larger dogs – label the cage with pet and owner details.

Notes:

- These items should all be packed into a container that is easy to pack into the car.
- The bottle of water can be used as drinking water for the pets – it may take some time to evacuate if traffic is heavy and the day is likely to be very hot. The water can also be used to flush eyes or cool burnt feet.
- It is preferable for medication to be in an original container with a vet's label as this will make it easier to get a further supply if your own vet clinic is not available.
- Writing all the pet's details and important history along with your details onto a single piece of paper ensures that if your pet needs to be left at a vet clinic or kennel that the best care can be given.
- Even if your pet doesn't normally wear an id tag ensure you have a tag (even just a keyring tag) attached to your emergency collar with the pet's name, your name and a mobile phone number – some facilities will take in large numbers of evacuated pets within a few hours and this will ensure animals can be identified.
- It is also a good idea to have a recent photo of your pet with details including microchip number written on the back packed to take with you in case your pet goes missing during the emergency.