Town Of Greenwich
Animal Control Division

Emergency Preparedness for Pets

It is important to make sure that the entire family is prepared and informed in the event of a disaster or emergency. You may not always be together when these events take place. A good plan will insure that every detail is well thought out in advance and can be implemented by any or all of your family members. Being prepared for any emergency requires a thoughtful consideration of your pets.

- Ask friends, relatives or others outside the affected area whether they could shelter your animals.
- Make a list of boarding facilities and veterinarians who could shelter animals in an emergency; include 24-hour phone numbers
- Contact hotels and motels outside your local area to check their policies on accepting pets and restrictions on number, size and species. Ask if "no pet" policies can be waived in an emergency. Keep a list of "pet friendly" places, including phone numbers, with your disaster supplies.
- If your pet has a microchip, please be sure you register all your information with the microchip company. Consider getting a microchip for your pet.

A watertight pet emergency bag is always a good idea to have on hand; here are some helpful tips to include:

- The bag should be well marked with your name, the pet’s name and current phone number printed on it. You may want to include a card or tag with this information.
- Veterinarian papers and phone number
- 3-7 days’ supply of food and water
- Photograph of pet preferably with owner
- Collapsible or light weight food/water bowls
- Flashlight/headlamp
- Medications with instructions attached
- Extra leash and collar with I.D. tags and license
- Blanket/towel
- Carrier for cat, exotic pet, or toy breeds
- Toy or treat!

Planning for the care of your pet is just a small part family preparedness. We encourage everyone to research ways in which to prepare for a crisis. The Red Cross’s website is an excellent place to start. http://www.redcross.org/prepare