



**FieldHaven Animal Sheltering Team**

**FHA****ST**

"Caring for Pets and Their People During Disasters"



[www.fieldhaven.com](http://www.fieldhaven.com) • (916) 434-6022

## **Emergency Preparedness Checklist for Cats**

Here are some things you can do to prepare for an emergency evacuation.

- Microchip your cats. If already chipped be sure your information is up to date. Record chip #s in your phone.
- Be sure you cats are up to date on vaccines, especially rabies and have the records on your phone or printed out in your go kit.
- Have a stash of supplies ready; food, small litter box, litter and medications.
- Have photos of your cat on your phone for identification in case you get separated. A back up to the microchip.
- Have a secure designated carrier or crate for each cat. Make sure carriers are escape proof. Have some zip ties handy for last minute security checks. We recommend carriers use bolts or zip ties to secure the top and bottom together, not plastic latches. We do not recommend cardboard carriers.
- A harness with an ID tag, a leash and a Tile ensure extra security for you both.
- Water for both you and your cat(s).
- Don't forget to have your personal go-bag ready. You need to take care of yourself so you can take care of your cat(s)!

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# Evacuating Your Cats

When it comes to evacuating during a fire or other disaster, the first thing to keep in mind is to crate your cat(s) up sooner than later. As soon as you have an inkling you may have to evacuate, gather up the tribe and get them secure. Cats are masters at sensing danger. Unlike dogs who glue themselves to you in uncertain times, cats will scatter and hide. Do not wait until the last minute to secure them in a carrier. You may end up being forced to make a desperate decision if you can not find that one last kitty who has crawled up under the bed and is inaccessible.

Some tips to ensure safe, secure and less-stress evacuation:

- If Kitty is fractious or stressed use a towel to burrito her to put in the crate.
- If possible, before putting Kitty into a carrier or crate, put a secure harness with a leash attached on. If a harness is impossible, then a collar.
- Put an ID tag on the harness or collar and a Tile locator.
- Once Kitty is in the crate or carrier, check the door and everywhere else for security.
- Use zipties to secure anything that is loose or broken. Cats are masters of escape!
- Throw a towel or sheet over the crate or carrier. This will give kitty a little extra security.
- Do NOT take kitty out of the crate in your car or anywhere else for that matter until you are secure in a closed building.
- If you are in a huge pinch and have no secure carriers or crates you can use a pillowcase with duct or masking tape to transport kitty. Put the kitty/pillowcase inside a box or laundry basket and put in your car.

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