

## Pet Preparedness TTX Answer Key – Summer 2016

1. Upon evacuating, pets should be placed in appropriately sized carriers or crates as this should help to reduce anxiety. Often, pets like to be in familiar settings and evacuating from a familiar setting may cause the animal to feel anxious. Be sure that your pet is microchipped and/or has necessary tags displayed which should include your name and contact information and any allergies that the animal may have or special medication that it requires. A Go-Kit specifically designed for your pet is also strongly encouraged and should include food and water for three (3) days, medication (if applicable), and favorite toys.
2. List the general description of your pet including eye color, fur/hair color, distinguishing markings, and approximate age, height, and weight.
3. Your local Office of Emergency Management (OEM) should have a list of which shelters in your town, or in a neighboring town that may accept animals in the event of an evacuation.
4. Many hotels, (<http://www.pet-friendly-hotels.net>), motels, and extended stay facilities are pet friendly regardless of an evacuation, so be sure to contact these entities directly or check with your local OEM.
5. Just as you build a Go-Kit for yourself and your immediate family members, so too should you build a Go-Kit for your pet. At the very minimum, it should include food and water for three (3) days, medication, favorite toys, and other items to help comfort your pet.
6. Keep your veterinarian's name and contact information along with copies of your pet's medical records in a Ziploc bag in your pet's Go-Kit, in an off-site secure location, on a cloud, a safety deposit box or on a flash drive.
7. Be sure that your pet has updated information on its collar which includes its name, *your* name and contact information, and any other pertinent information. Also, consider having your pet microchipped should the collar become lost. Be sure to have recent photos of your pet as this will help authorities locate it if you become separated.
8. This includes contacting local law enforcement officials and providing them with a physical description of your pet along with recent photos. Other options, if possible, include utilizing personal social media accounts (i.e. Facebook) and contacting local media outlets and municipal animal shelters.