

Pet Evacuation Go-Bag Checklist

Pack it before hurricane season — keep it by the door.

Build two versions: a lighter go-bag if you evacuate, and a larger kit if you shelter in place. Pack a floor of about 7 days of food, water, and medicine per pet — assume you may not get home for a while — and rotate food and meds so they stay fresh. If officials tell you to evacuate, your pet evacuates too.

Food & water

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| ☐ 7+ days of food in an airtight, waterproof container | ☐ Food and water bowls |
| ☐ 7+ days of water, per pet | ☐ Manual can opener (for canned food) |

Health & meds

- ☐ 2-week supply of medications, with written dosing instructions
- ☐ Copies of vaccination and medical records (waterproof + saved on your phone)
- ☐ Pet first-aid kit — gauze, non-stick tape, tweezers, antibiotic ointment, styptic powder (ask your vet what to add)
- ☐ Signed veterinary treatment authorization (optional but recommended)

ID & reunification

- ☐ Collar with a visible ID tag (pet's name + your cell number)
- ☐ Microchip registered and current — in your name
- ☐ Recent photo of you WITH your pet (printed + on your phone) for proof of ownership
- ☐ Proof of ownership + feeding, medical, and behavior notes + your vet's name and number

Transport & containment

- ☐ A sturdy carrier or crate — one per pet, big enough to stand, turn around, and lie down
- ☐ Leash + harness, plus a backup leash, collar, and tag
- ☐ Rescue Alert sticker for your door (write “EVACUATED” across it if you leave with them)

Sanitation

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| ☐ Litter + litter box or tray + scoop | ☐ Dish soap or disinfectant |
| ☐ Waste bags and paper towels | ☐ Household bleach — surfaces only, never in drinking water |

Comfort & documents

- ☐ A familiar toy, treats, and a blanket or bedding to lower stress
- ☐ A list of pet-friendly hotels and shelters, with phone numbers — call ahead
- ☐ Your evacuation-zone printout (“Know Your Zone”) — in Miami-Dade, use the Emergency Information Lookup

Never leave pets behind — if it isn't safe for you, it isn't safe for them. Most emergency shelters take only service animals, so arrange a pet-friendly shelter, a pet-friendly hotel, or a friend outside your zone before the storm. Pre-registration rules vary by county — check your county's official page.