



www.completecanineacademywestplains.com

Disaster Preparedness Checklist for Dog Owners

Before the Disaster: Preparation & Training

☒ Identification & Records

- Microchip your dog and keep the registration up to date.
- Ensure your dog wears a collar with ID tags (name, phone number).
- Keep vaccination records-especially Rabies certificate, medical history, and a recent photo in a waterproof bag (don't count on having your phone for pictures).

☒ Emergency Kit for Your Dog

- 3-7 days' worth of food and water.
- Portable food and water bowls.
- Medications and first-aid supplies.
- Extra leash, and collar (with ID tag).
- Crate or carrier (label it with your contact info).
- Waste bags and cleaning supplies.
- Comfort items (favorite toy, blanket, or bed).
- Muzzle

☒ Training for Emergency Situations

- Crate Training – Ensure your dog is comfortable in a crate for transport and sheltering.
- Recall & Leash Skills – Practice coming when called, especially with distractions, in bad weather, and in the dark.
- Desensitization – Get your dog used to emergency sounds (sirens, alarms -YouTube is a great place to find this).
- Handling Stress – Train your dog to be calm in new environments using rewards. Teach Place.
- Muzzle train- Dogs can be unpredictable. Muzzles keep them from making a bad decision, keeps them and others safe.

☒ Evacuation Plan

- Identify pet-friendly shelters or hotels in case of evacuation.
- Arrange a safe place for your dog if you can't take them (friend, family, boarding).
- Practice, practice, practice evacuation drills with your dog.

During the Disaster: Keeping Your Dog Safe

✓ If Evacuating:

- Take your dog with you—never leave them behind.
- Keep them secured with a leash or carrier.
- Bring their emergency kit and familiar items for comfort.
- Stay calm; your dog will pick up on your stress.

✓ If Sheltering in Place:

- Choose a safe room away from windows.
- Keep your dog on a leash or in a crate to prevent panic behavior.
- Provide familiar items and distractions (toys, chew items).
- Keep an eye on stress signals (panting, pacing, hiding).

✓ Handling Fearful or Anxious Dogs:

- Use calming techniques like deep petting and soft voice.
- Reward calm behavior with treats.
- If safe, play music or white noise to mask scary sounds.

After the Disaster: Recovery & Training

✓ Returning Home:

- Walk your dog on a leash to check for hazards (broken glass, debris, chemicals).
- Keep them away from contaminated water or unknown food sources.
- Watch for signs of stress (whining, hiding, loss of appetite).

✓ Behavior & Training Post-Disaster:

- Resume a normal routine as soon as possible.
- Provide extra training and reassurance if your dog shows fear-based behaviors.
- If anxiety persists, reinforce confidence-building exercises (calm leash walks, place training, enrichment activities).
- If needed, consult a trainer for behavior support. Sooner is better. Address change in behavior in a timely manner before the behavior is reinforced.

✅ Health & Safety Check:

- Inspect for injuries or signs of illness.
- Provide clean water and balanced meals.
- Schedule a vet visit if needed.

By preparing in advance, you can help ensure your dog's safety and well-being in any emergency!

At Complete Canine Academy, we've trained thousands of dogs to handle real-world challenges, and we're here to help you prepare for the unexpected. Whether it's confidence-building, crate training, come when called or leash skills, we can guide you and your dog through any situation. Contact us today to ensure your dog is ready for anything! 🐾

completecanineacademy@gmail.com

Text: 417.252.1097

Cate & Shelly