***Preparing for Your Pets Makes Sense***

* If you are like millions of animal owners nationwide, our pet is an important member of your household.
* The likelihood that you and your animals will survive an emergency such as a fire or

flood, tornado or terrorist attack depends largely on emergency planning done today.

* Some of the things you can do to prepare for the unexpected, such as assembling an animal emergency supply kit and developing a pet care buddy system, are the same for any emergency.
* Whether you decide to stay put in an emergency or evacuate to a safer location, you will need to make plans in advance for your pets.
* Keep in mind that what’s best for you is typically what’s best for your animals.
* If you must evacuate, take your pets with you if possible. However, if you are going to a public shelter, it is important to understand that animals may not be allowed inside.
* Plan in advance for shelter alternatives that will work for both you and

your pets.

* Make a back-up emergency plan in case you can’t care for your animals yourself.
* Develop a buddy system with neighbors, friends and relatives to make sure that someone is available to care for or evacuate your pets if you are unable to do so.
* Be prepared to improvise and use what you have on hand to make it on your own for at least three days, maybe longer.
* Preparing for the unexpected makes sense