

How to Make an Evacuation Kit for Your Bird

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

Food and Water

- Food: Two weeks supply; place dry food (pelleted diets, seeds, dried fruits and veggies) in airtight containers (rotate every 3 months)
- Usual treats (rotate every 3 months)
- Water: Two weeks supply of water (store in dark place, rotate every 2 months). Estimate 1-2 quarts per day for drinking, bathing, and cleaning.
- Food and water dishes

Restraint and Identification

- Towels
- Thick leather gloves if your pet is a large bird (in case your bird is injured or very afraid)
- Portable cage with the following information indelibly printed: your name; phone number; address; a description of your bird (distinguishing marks, age, breed, sex, etc.); the name of your bird; leg band or microchip ID, if any; pet insurance policy number; any medical needs; and the address and phone number where you or a contact person can be reached if you are not at home
- Recent photographs with the same information that is on the portable cage printed on the back (keep in a waterproof container, e.g., inside several ziplock bags). Include yourself in some of the photos to help you reclaim your pet, should

Care and Comfort

- Blanket or sheet to cover cage
- Toys
- Hot water bottle
- Flashlight and batteries
- Grooming supplies
- Spray bottle for misting

Records and Medications (store in a waterproof container)

- Vaccination certificates
- List of phone numbers:
 - Your veterinarian
 - List of secondary veterinarians
 - "Pet-friendly" motels
 - Boarding facilities for birds (Red Cross shelters do not allow animals)
 - Emergency clinic(s)
 - Database centers if your bird has a leg band or microchip
 - Animal poison control center(s)
 - Animal shelters in your area (in case you get separated from your pet)
- Pet insurance policy number
- Copies of proof of ownership papers (registration information, adoption papers, proofs of purchase, and microchip/leg band information to store in the evacuation kit). List each of your animals and their species/breed, age, sex, color, and other

he become lost.

- Wire, pliers, and duct tape (to repair portable cage)

Sanitation

- Newspapers for lining the cage
- Paper towels
- Dish soap
- Disinfectant (e.g., Nolvasan)
- Garbage bags
- Spray bottle for holding disinfectant solution

distinguishing characteristics.

- Medical records and/or list of medical needs, if your bird has a medical condition or is on medication
- Two weeks supply of medication in waterproof container (rotate every two months); have chemical ice packs and a small, insulated cooler if medication needs refrigeration
- First aid kit

A large plastic tub or garbage can with a lid can be used to store these disaster preparedness items for your bird. Tape a copy of this list to the inside of the cover for future reference. Include a calendar indicating when certain items should be/were replaced.

In addition to the items listed above, include anything you use for your bird on a weekly or monthly basis. A good idea is to collect all the materials for your disaster preparedness kit, and then experiment by using only those items to care for your bird the next two weeks. That way, you will easily find out if you need to include other items, or a larger quantity of certain things.