Preparing your animals for an Emergency
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The following information is designed to assist residents in the preparation of their pets if the unexpected occurs. It does not cater for every type of pet but gives general guidance. During a major incident it may be necessary to evacuate an area, the Council will provide emergency shelter in the form of a rest centre which will be established in a school, village hall or sports centre. All rest centres are unable to accept pets inside except those assistance animals that help people with disabilities. Animal agencies and animal shelters will generally have limited or no room available for evacuated animals and should not be relied upon in your planning. In an evacuation it is often recommended that pets are left at home but for some this may be difficult. The information below should assist you in preparing for the welfare of your pet before an incident happens.

1 Alternative Accommodation

1.1 In the event of an evacuation Rochford District Council have a number of rest centres available for people however they cannot accommodate animals. Very limited stocks of cages and outdoor shelters are available but the use of these for your pet cannot be guaranteed. If you are unable to leave your pet at home it is recommended that you ask friends, relatives or others outside of your immediate area if they could shelter you and your animals during an emergency. If you have more than one pet they may be more comfortable kept together but be prepared to temporarily house them separately.

1.2 If pets are left at home shut them inside an upstairs room with ample supplies of food and water. Leave notices on external doors saying there are animals inside.

1.3 If animals are left in a field or field shelter leave emergency contact details on the gate and shelter.

2 Emergency Supply Kit

2.1 If your pets are evacuated emergency supplies are essential. This kit should be easily assembled at short notice and able to be stored in a sturdy container that is easily carried and accessible. The kit could contain:

- Food – at least seven days supply with a tin opener if needed.
- Feeding bowls, spoon.
- Medication.
- Flea/worming treatment.
- Pet Carrier.
- Cage or crate – big enough for the pet to stand up in and space for feeding bowls.
- Chain lead.
- Blanket/Pet Coats.
• Treats or familiar item such as toys or bedding.
• Pooper scooper/litter tray/litter.
• Cloths etc for cleaning bowls and cages.
• Picture of your pet with you, registration, insurance, microchip number and vaccination documents in a sealed waterproof bag.
• Spare ID tag with to use if you are going to be living somewhere else.

3 Identification and Micro Chipping

3.1 It is a legal requirement for dogs in a public place to wear a collar with the name and address of the owner written or engraved on it or on a tag attached to the collar. However it is strongly recommend that all cats and dogs are micro chipped and that the details are kept up to date as collars and tags can get lost. Many vets in Rochford District offer an affordable micro chipping service.

4 Shelter

4.1 The advice during an incident may be to “Go In, Stay In, Tune In”, meaning go inside close windows and listen to local radio for further information. This also applies to animals although you should never put your own or another human life in danger to save an animal.

4.2 Arrange with a neighbour to take in your animals if you are away from home when evacuation or shelter advice is given.

5 Useful Contacts in and around the Rochford District

Vets

Rochford Veterinary Surgery
East Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1DB
Phone: 01702 545558

Ashingdon Veterinary Surgery
Headingham Place
Rectory Road
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1UP
Phone: 01702 534701
Medivet
92 Main Road
Hockley
Essex
SS5 4RL
Phone: 01702 413902

Your Vets
12 Brook Road
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 7UR
Phone: 01268 745180

The Barn Equine and Large Animal Practice
Clay St Farm
Barling Road
Great Wakering
Essex
SS3 0QG
Phone: 01702 589389

Rayleigh Vets 4 Pets Ltd.
87 Eastwood Road
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 7JN
Phone: 01268 772283

Downes Veterinary Surgeons
28 Eastwood Road
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 7JQ
Phone: 01268 776883

Vets Savers
257 Ferry Road
Hullbridge
Essex
SS5 6NA
Phone: 01702 233743
Animal Boarding

Apton Hall Cats (Licenced for 30 cats)
Adjacent to Kensal Bridge House
Apton Hall Road
Canewdon
Rochford
Essex
Phone: 01702 258848
Mobile: 07786 387926

Ashingdon Heights Boarding Kennels (Licenced for 64 Dogs and 10 Cats)
Durham Road
Rochford
Essex
SS4 3AE
Phone: 01702 531155

Ashingdon Pet Services (Home Boarding Establishment licenced for 2 dogs)
http://www.ashingdonpetservices.co.uk/
Phone 07711 041205

Beeches Farm (Licenced for 6 dogs)
Arterial Road
Rayleigh
Essex
Phone: 01268 745164

Cats in the Country (Licenced for 25 cats)
Oak Lodge
Hydewood Lane
Canewdon
Essex
SS4 3RR
Phone: 01702 258293
Mobile: 07939 285675

Cat Whiskers (Licenced for 28 Cats)
5 Wellington Avenue
Hullbridge
Essex
SS5 6DT
Phone: 01702 231766

Crofters Kennels and Cattery (Licenced for 16 Dogs and 12 Cats)
Beke Hall Chase South
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 9EX
Phone: 01268 785350
Daws Heath Kennels (Licenced for 30 Dogs and 30 Cats)
256 Daws Heath Road
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 7NR
Phone: 01268 778128

Happi Hounds (Home Boarding Establishment and Agency Licenced for 3 Dogs)
12 Glenwood Avenue
Hawkwell
Essex
SS5 4HH
Phone: 01702 200247
Mobile: 07854 094533

Home Boarding Establishment (Licenced for 3 dogs)
39 Ferndale Road
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 9NN
Phone: 01268 642649
Mobile: 07535 948615

The Cat Hotel (Licenced for 73 Cats)
Plough House
Mucking Hall Road
Barling
Essex
SS3 0NH
Phone: 01702 217555

The Friendly Boarding Cattery (Licenced for 52 Cats)
6 Lincoln Road
Rochford
Essex
SS4 3AF
Phone 01702 544522

Top Cats Luxury Country Cattery (Licenced for 80 Cats)
Harrogate Drive
Hockley
Essex
SS5 5HX
Phone: 01702 206298

Woodview Boarding Kennels (Licenced for 50 Dogs)
Greensward Lane
Hockley
Essex
SS5 5JR
Phone 01702 202474
Small Animal Boarding

N & J Guinea Pig Holidays
148 Rectory Avenue
Rochford
Essex
SS4 3TB
Phone: 01702 544224

The Little Burrow
Rabbit and Guinea Pig Holidays
Eastbury Avenue
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1SF
Phone: 01702 541491

Claires Pet Services
37 Tendring Avenue
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 9SB
Phone: 01268 783348

Animal Holidays
38 Leister Avenue
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1JL
Phone: 01702 542581

5 Star Guinea Pig Boarding
28 Ferndale Road
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 9NN
Phone: 07811 947505

Pet Shops

Barney's Pet Shop (Small animals and birds)
Unit 2, Fairways
Hullbridge Road
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 9QS
Phone: 01702 232372
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Daws Heath Kennels (Puppies only)
256 Daws Heath Road
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 7NR
Phone: 01268 778128

Four Seasons Garden Centre (Small Animals and birds)
15 Southend Road
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1HA
Phone: 01702 540830

Pets at Home (Small animals, reptiles and aquatics)
Unit 1
Airport Retail Park
Rochford
Essex
SS2 6FW
Phone: 01702 546780

Swallow Aquatics (Rayleigh) Ltd. (Aquatics, Reptiles, Small Animals and Birds)
London Road
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 9ES
Phone: 01268 782265

Anna’s Pet Shop (Supplies only)
7 Eastwood Road
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 7JD
Phone: 01268 773 839

Animal Fayre Ltd. (Supplies only)
25-27 North Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1AB
Phone: 01702 545625

K9 Pets Services and Pet Supplies (Animal Supplies, some small animal pet sitting and transport for dogs)
7 Graham Close
Hockley
Essex
SS5 5HE
Phone: 07709 028696
Purrfect Pets and Gardens (Supplies only)
68 Little Wakering Road
Little Wakering
Essex
SS3 0JH
Phone: 01702 216930

Other Local Organisations

Acres Way Kennels (Stray Dog Kennels for Rochford, but also house stray dogs for Southend, Basildon and Castle Point)
Great Burches Road
Thundersley
Essex
SS7 3NE
Phone: 01268 770402

Rayleigh Cats Protection (Covers Rayleigh, Hockley and Hullbridge)
Contact the Co-ordinator Norman on 01268 566323

Southend and District Cats Protection (Covers Rochford and Wakering)
Contact Homing and Cat Rescue Officer Rita Roberts on 01702 710630

RSPCA Essex South and Southend Branch
Contact Bonnie on 07749 175023

Barling Poultry (Does Chicken Boarding)
Barrow Hall Road
Barling
Essex
Phone: 01702 500776 or 07716 367858

Wheatley Farm Nursery (Sells chickens and chicken feed)
London Road
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 9ES
Phone: 01268 783111

Iain Newby (For all exotic species)
28 Stuart Close
Great Wakering
Essex
SS3 0JD
Phone: 01702 219472 or 07729 852932
Essex Horse and Pony Protection Society
Pitsea Hall Lane
Basildon
Essex
SS16 4UH
Phone: 01268 584603

South Essex Wildlife Hospital
Grays
Phone: 01375 893893
Preparing your pets for an emergency

Step 1
Have you prepared a pet evacuation plan?

- Can your pets stay with friends or relatives?
- How will you transport your pet? – Make sure you have pet carriers.

Have a ‘grab bag’ prepared including the following:

- Pet bedding.
- Adequate food and water, including feeding bowls.
- Litter trays, litter, poop scoops and bags.
- Pet medications.
- Harnesses and leashes for your pet (consider a muzzle for your dog if you are going to a Rest Centre).
- Take comfort items for your pets – toys etc.
- If necessary, take brushes and grooming items.
- Make sure that your ‘grab bag’ contains up-to-date copies of vet vaccination and insurance certificates.

If you are forced to leave your pet behind tell the local authority that you have been forced to do so.

Do not put your life, or the lives of others in danger in attempting to rescue or protect animals.

Consider having a rehearsal of your plan to make sure that it works, that you know what to do and when to do it.

Step 2
Do you have garden pets like rabbits or guinea pigs?

- Make sure that hutches are in good repair and are weather tight.
- Can you move hutches into sheds or garages if severe weather is forecast?
- Can your neighbours help? Can you help them?
- Maintain a supply of pet food and bedding in case you are unable to go shopping.

Be sure to regularly check on the welfare of your garden pets.

For further information or advice

website: www.rochford.gov.uk
email: emergency.planning@rochford.gov.uk
phone: Customer Services 01702 318111

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Step 3
Do you have exotic pets such as lizards, snakes or fish?
- Can your pet be transported? Do you have a secure and safe pet carrier?
- How can you maintain the right conditions for your pet?
- How can you maintain a stock of feed and bedding for your pet?
- Who can look after your pet if you are forced to evacuate?

If you are forced to leave your pet behind, be sure to inform the local authority that you have done so once you have reached a place of safety. Ensure that you have spare keys to your home so that animal welfare agencies can assess your pet if you are unable to do so.

Step 4
Do you have indoor pets such as birds, rodents, cats or dogs?
- Obtain a suitable secure pet carrier for your pet.
- Place spare bedding and old newspapers in your pet carrier.
- Obtain a suitable harness/leash for your pet. Do you need a muzzle for your dog?
- Make sure your pet is micro-chipped. Are the details correct?
- Make sure your pet has a collar with name tag and phone number.
- Obtain recent photo of your pet showing distinguishing marks.
- Make a list of the medications your pet is on, and include any allergies or ailments.
- Place copies of your pet vaccination certificates in your ‘grab bag’.
- Place pet medications in your ‘grab bag’.
- Provide adequate spare food and bedding for your pet.
- Consider including pet calming products in your ‘grab bag’.

If you are forced to leave your pet behind, be sure to inform the local authority that you have done so once you have reached a place of safety. Ensure that you have spare keys to your home so that animal welfare agencies can assess your pet if you are unable to do so.

Step 5
Do you have livestock such as chickens, goats or horses?
- Make sure that arks, coops and stables are in good repair and are weather tight. Check fences, gates and hedges.
- Is the location where your animals are kept safe from flooding or other danger?
- If the location is at risk from flooding, find a site nearby that would not be at risk so you have somewhere to evacuate your animals if the need arises.
- If danger threatens, make arrangements so that your animals can be put in their shelters and have adequate food and water.
- If you cannot move your animals find out who can, and make arrangements with them to do so. Record their telephone numbers.
- Keep a stock of feed and bedding for your animals.

If danger threatens, make an early decision to shelter your animals – you may not be able to do so later. Do not put your life, or the lives of others in danger in attempting to rescue or protect animals.

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