

F.E.R.R.E.T.
ferretemergency.org
presents

Emergency Preparedness for Ferret
Shelters During Natural disasters

Family First

- Make sure you have a disaster plan for your family in place first
- Go to ready.gov for information on how to develop a family disaster plan

Types of Disasters

- Biological Threat
- Chemical Threat
- Explosions
- Fires
- Hurricanes
- Landslides
- Thunderstorms
- Tsunamis
- Wildfires
- Blackouts
- Earthquakes
- Extreme Heat
- Floods
- Pandemics
- Nuclear/Radiation
- Tornadoes
- Volcanoes
- Winter Storms

Should I Stay or Should I Go?

- Many times the decision to stay or go will depend on the emergency and where you are located (the topography of your area).
- Sometimes the decision will not be yours to make – the authorities can make it a mandatory evacuation
- You need to be prepared to do BOTH
- Shelter in Place Plan & Evacuation Plan
- And you should know both

SARTS and CARTS

- Find out if your state has a SART (State Animal Rescue Team) and/or a CART (County Animal Rescue Team).
 - <http://www.sartusa.org/>
- As a shelter, it's a good idea to join these groups to start networking and learning about their disaster plans for your state/area.
 - <http://www.citizencorps.gov/>

Emergency Plan

Chose an out-of-town contact (OTC) that can interface with F.E.R.R.E.T. and other rescue groups in your state.

Subscribe to alert services provided by your state and/or your county. Many communities now have systems that will send instant text messages or email alerts to let you know about local emergencies (weather, etc.) You can sign up by visiting your local Office of Emergency Management website.

Communication

- If you are unable to make a call from a landline or your cell phone, sometimes text messages still go through.
- Are there HAM operators in your neighborhood or nearby?
- Does anyone near you have a satellite phone?
- You should have a regular (non-electric) telephone on hand.

Supplies for Sheltering In Place

- Weather/emergency broadcast radio
- Regular radio (with a hand crank for power)
- Batteries
- Flashlights (LED)
- First Aid Kit & Manual (human and ferret)
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Current Local Maps
- Cell phones with charges or solar chargers

- Water, food, litter
- Trash bags
- Battery Operated fans
- Fire extinguishers
- Matches/lighter
- Bleach (no scented, color safe or added cleaners)
- Cash and change
- Phone cards
- Vet/ vaccination records

Evacuating

- There are many things that need to be addressed long before you evacuate.
 - Find a place to go (SART, CART, networking with other ferret shelters and ferret groups).
 - Find help (other ferret owners and groups)
 - Have transport carriers/cages available for all ferrets
 - Have a picture, proof of vaccinations/ADV and med info for each ferret/group

- Have a way to quickly remove all ferrets in case of an emergency like a fire (go sacks on each cage)
- Make contact with F.E.R.R.E.T. to tell us where you're evacuating to and when. Make sure to give us contact telephone numbers.
- Find a regular and an emergency vet in the area you are evacuating to

Sheltering in Place

- Commit to staying and don't change your mind when it is too late to safely evacuate
- Have adequate supplies on hand
 - Water
 - Food
 - Medications
- Be prepared to take care of yourself for at least 72 hours after the event

What national charitable
organization will be
“boots on the ground”
within 24 hours to assist you
after a natural disaster?

NOBODY!!!!!!

- Before your disaster. . .
 - Your state has memorandums of understanding with the big animal rescue organizations
- After your disaster
 - Rescuers cannot come in to assist until invited by the state officials
 - The area is sealed off by law enforcement
 - Only authorized and credentialed rescue personnel are allowed to enter the area

Rescue Personnel

- Individuals can only gain access to affected areas as part of an invited larger organization
- Individuals can only be a part of the rescue organization if you have completed special training
 - FEMA courses
 - Individual group training sessions

- IS-100 Introduction to Incident Command System
- IS-700 National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction
- IS-10 Animals in Disaster, Module A: Awareness and Preparedness
- IS-11 Animals in Disaster, Module B: Community Planning

How F.E.R.R.E.T. Can Help

- We can help with donations of food, water, bedding, etc.
- We can assist with volunteers with the proper FEMA and emergency training.
- We can coordinate volunteer help and transports.
- We can assist the larger organizations with answers to their veterinary and care questions regarding ferrets.

How You Can Help F.E.R.R.E.T.

- Make a disaster plan
- Network with the other shelters in your state
- Join F.E.R.R.E.T.S. on Facebook to get up to the minute details on the latest in current s
- Join the Yahoo shelter group moderated by Barb Clay
- Get your FEMA certifications

- Make a plan
- Get a kit
- Be informed