



Take a moment to remember the devastation caused by Katrina's surging flood waters.

The truth is that Pinellas County is at risk for severe storm surge flooding. Despite ongoing education, there are citizens who live in evacuation (or storm surge) zones in Pinellas County who still do not have plans for safe shelter when a storm approaches.

If a Category 3 hurricane is headed to Pinellas County, about 391,000 people would need to evacuate surge-vulnerable areas or mobile homes. With approximately 74,000 public shelter spaces, alternative shelter is needed. Some people stay in the county at a hotel or a relative's house in a non-evacuation area. Others may be able to leave early enough to drive hundreds of miles out of harm's way.

But for others – many of whom are elderly or pet owners – additional local opportunities are needed. For them, organizations that set up a voluntary Host Homes program can help.

Employers, places of worship, civic organizations and community groups are among the organizations that can establish their own voluntary Host Homes programs that they operate for their own employees or members. It gives an opportunity for those within an organization who live in a secure home in a non-evacuation area to open their home to a fellow member of the same organization who must evacuate.

Keeping the host/guest matches within the organization takes away some of the fear associated with the thought of helping strangers. It allows the volunteer coordinators the freedom to run the program according to the needs of the participating organization.

In particular, faith organizations can reach out to their elderly and disabled members to make sure those members have safe shelter. A bonus is matching them with fellow members who can offer moral support and comfort during a scary and uncertain time.

The program can also benefit pet owners who would otherwise stay home with their pets regardless of the danger.

Host homes is not a county program. It is a voluntary program for community organizations. The county has prepared a toolkit and additional information to help organizations get started. To find out more go to: www.pinellascounty.org/emergency

PLAN AHEAD FOR YOUR PET



Pinellas County pet owners have options when it comes to pet-friendly emergency shelters. The Pinellas County School Board and Pinellas County government have three pet-friendly shelter locations.

Each of these facilities are substantially built, have large indoor gyms and separate air handlers to ensure the comfort and safety of allergic citizens who shelter there. Pet shelters accept only cats and dogs.

Animal shelters, such as Pinellas County Animal Services, the Humane Society and the SPCA, cannot accept your pets.

Don't assume that a boarding kennel or hotel/motel will accept your pet. Check ahead and look for kennels in non-evacuation zones.

Things to do:

- Take your pet when you evacuate. Do not leave your pets at home!
- Ask friends or family living outside of evacuation areas if they can keep your pet.
- Keep a pet carrier (portable kennel) for each pet – one that allows your pet to stand and turn around. The carrier should be marked with your pet's identification.
- Make sure all your pet's vaccinations are current and have proof available of its current county-issued rabies vaccination.
- If you must use a kennel as a last resort, make sure it is not in an evacuation zone and reserve space as soon as possible. Kennels require proof of vaccinations.

Download a Pet Identification Form from the Animal Services website www.pinellascounty.org/animalservices

Follow the heading Pet Hurricane Planning, fill out the form and tape it to your pet carrier or kennel. This form will contain all needed information about your pet for your stay at Pinellas County pet-friendly shelters.



Pet Disaster Supply Kit

- Proper identification
- Immunization and medical records
- County-issued rabies tag
- Food and water (2 wks. supply)
- Food/water bowls
- A carrier or portable kennel
- Medications
- Muzzle, collar and leash
- Manual can opener
- Current photo of pet
- Favorite toys and blanket
- Cat litter/pan and scoop
- Grooming items
- Plastic bags to handle waste
- Paper towels
- Disinfectant

WHAT ABOUT HORSES AND LIVESTOCK?

Horses and livestock can go to Walsingham Park at 12615 102nd Avenue North, in Largo for large animal evacuation. The park provides a perimeter fence, native vegetation and available water. Bring proof of recent Coggins test with you to the evacuation site.

Register

Residents must register themselves and their pets for these pet-friendly shelters, as space is limited. Mobile home residents are given first priority. Call (727) 582-2150 or download a registration form at www.pinellascounty.org/animalservices/ASHurPrep.pdf and return it to:

Pinellas County Animal Services
12450 Ulmerton Road
Largo, FL 33774
fax (727) 582-2637

PET-FRIENDLY HOTELS/MOTELS

Call the St. Petersburg/Clearwater Area Convention & Visitors Bureau at (727) 464-7200

or check the following websites during an evacuation:

- www.visitspetclearwater.com
- www.floridapets.net
- www.petswelcome.com
- www.LetsGoPets.com
- www.petfriendlyhotels.com
- www.petfriendlytravel.com
- www.1clickpethotels.com
- www.travelpets.com
- www.dogfriendly.com

PET SHELTERS

Oak Grove Middle School
1370 S. Belcher Road
Clearwater

Thurgood Marshall Middle School
3901 22nd Ave. S.
St. Petersburg

Dunedin Middle School
70 Patricia Ave.
Dunedin

POST-DISASTER ANIMAL COLLECTION

After a storm, stray animals will be collected and moved to fenced areas at the following designated sites. Check the locations nearest your home and where you last saw your pet. To report a lost pet, call Pinellas County Animal Services at (727) 582-2600.

Temporary Collection Sites:

Meadowlawn Middle School
6050 16th St. N.
St. Petersburg 33703

Dixie Hollins High School
4940 62nd St. N.
St. Petersburg 33709

Boca Ciega High School
924 58th St. S.
Gulfport 33707

Lakewood High School
1400 54th Ave. S.
St. Petersburg 33705

Clearwater High School
540 S. Hercules Ave.
Clearwater 33764

Palm Harbor Middle School
1800 Tampa Rd.
Palm Harbor 34683

East Lake High School
1300 Silver Eagle Dr.
Tarpon Springs 34688

Dunedin High School
1651 Pinehurst Rd.
Dunedin 34698



Pinellas County Animal Services
(727) 582-2600
www.pinellascounty.org/animalservices