

## Welfare centres

The City of Canning recognises the importance of maintaining animal owner links as part of the Community Recovery Process and has developed a Community Safety trailer to help support residents and their pets in the event of a community evacuation.

Although animals are not allowed inside Welfare Centres, **owners who have no other options may bring their pets to the approved location** adjoining the selected centre in the event of a community evacuation.



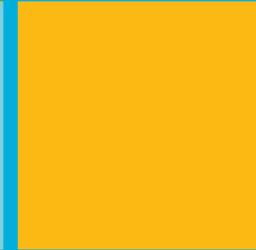
## Returning home

Animal's behaviour can change after an emergency. They may become disorientated, frightened and even defensive or aggressive. Familiar scents and landmarks may be altered and your pet may become confused and/or lost.

Check animal pounds, shelters and boarding facilities for missing animals. Ensure you have a recent a recent photo of your pets to help identify them.



## Pets in an Emergency



For additional information please visit  
[canning.wa.gov.au](http://canning.wa.gov.au)



City of Canning

1317 Albany Highway, Cannington WA 6107

Ph: 1300 4 CANNING (1300 422 664)

E: [customer@canning.wa.gov.au](mailto:customer@canning.wa.gov.au)

[canning.wa.gov.au](http://canning.wa.gov.au)

   [cityofcanning](https://www.facebook.com/cityofcanning)

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**Working together for a safe community.**

Western Australia faces a variety of disasters that may place your animals in danger including bushfires, floods and severe storms. This brochure contains information to assist you in preparing you and your animals for a disaster.

## Identification

Often pets try to flee in the event of an emergency, particularly if they can smell smoke or hear a disaster approaching.

**Remember if your pet gets lost, their identification is their ticket home!**

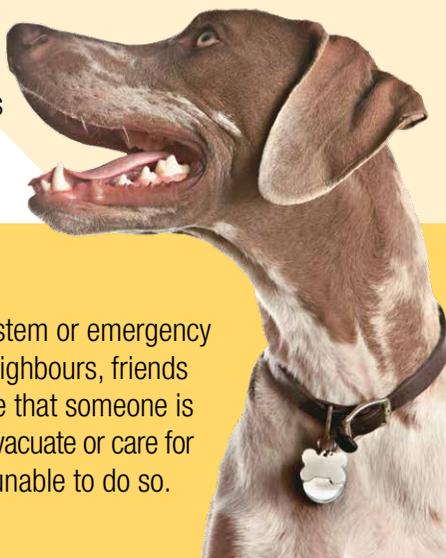
Ensure your pet has up to date identification attached to its collar. This should include both name tags with correct contact details and current Council registration tags.

**As collars and tags can be lost or removed, make sure your pet is microchipped with up to date contact details** – If you've recently purchased a dog make sure microchip ownership details are transferred.

Livestock should be clearly branded or earmarked and birds should have leg bands attached.

### Handy Hint:

Develop a Buddy System or emergency support plan with neighbours, friends or relatives to ensure that someone is always available to evacuate or care for your pets if you are unable to do so.



## Preparing for Emergencies

The very nature of emergency events means that they are unexpected and will leave almost no time for planning. In times of crisis, people worry about their family, belongings and their pets. The key to survival is forward planning, practice and self-reliance.

- Ensure pets always have a water supply that will last them a number of days, even if you expect to be home that evening
- Find a trusted neighbour, family member or friend who is comfortable and familiar with your pets and give them a key to your house
- Prepare a pet emergency/disaster kit, include food, toys, medication, collar, lead, pet carrier
- Plan ahead and consider where you will evacuate your pets - boarding kennels, animal shelters or friends that could temporarily house and care for your pets
- Ensure your pets vaccinations are up to date, in case they need to be admitted to a boarding facility or shelter.

## During an emergency

Animals have instincts about severe weather changes and may isolate themselves if they are afraid, bringing them inside early can stop them from running away.

**Never leave pets outside or tied up during a storm.**



## Pets in an Evacuation

The welfare of animals can be an important factor for people in making decisions about their personal welfare, including evacuating a threatened property or seeking emergency shelter.

**If you need to evacuate, the most important thing you can do to protect your pets is to take them with you.**

Domestic pets most likely cannot survive on their own; and if by chance they do, you may not be able to find them when you return.

As pets are reliant on owners for their safety in an emergency, it is essential that you plan ahead. Prepare for the safety and welfare of your pets and livestock well before an emergency event affects your property.

If you have livestock allow yourself plenty of time to relocate them. Emergencies such as fire or flood can cause significant disruption. Plan for alternative escape routes and leave early to avoid unnecessary risks.

