



Storms and Cyclones, a pet peeve

Are your pets ready to weather the storm?

TOWNSVILLE VETERINARY CLINIC
AND
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Be sure to visit our website townsvillevetclinic.com.au for more information on caring for your pets, large and small, and the services provided by the Townsville Veterinary Clinic

And don't forget that you can visit the website to book small animal appointments online too !



Instagram



Not having a plan for your pets in the event of a storm, cyclone or flood could be disastrous. Our pets sometimes get overlooked in these difficult situations so it's important to be prepared for the worst.

Emergency planning:

- Pre-arranged evacuation location for you and your pets
- Ensure microchip and collar details are up to date
- Have your vet's phone number close at hand
- Keep an emergency supply kit that can be packed and come with you during an evacuation
 - First aid kit
 - Pet food
 - Water bowl
 - Any essential medications
 - Collar, harness, lead or covered carry cage
 - Litter tray and litter
 - Snakes can be transferred in a securely tied pillow case or sack
 - Other reptiles can be moved in small plastic containers with ventilation holes.

A basic first aid kit should include items such as bandages, gauze swabs, cotton wool, betadine, tweezers, scissors and gloves. First aid kits for small and large animals are available at the TVC reception desk. If you own horses, an emergency kit should also include a knife, wire cutters, rope and halters.

Whether you keep your horse in a stable or loose in the paddock is dependent on the nature of the emergency, risk of debris such as trees falling and the sturdiness of the stall. Either way adequate identification is required in case your horse goes missing from fallen fences. Keep paperwork with proof of ownership in your emergency kit. Tying luggage tags into the mane and tail or using stock paint to record your phone number, address is often the best way to ensure lost horses make their way back to you.

Before the storm begins check the paddock for any hazards such as damaged fences, sharp items and potential projectiles. If you are planning to evacuate your horse, do it well in advance. Moving your horses later in adverse weather can prove dangerous. Try to make sure that your horse is not left in a paddock where there are power lines in case they come down.

First Aid Kits
Prepare your Pets for Storm Season



Horse First Aid Kit \$85
Contains \$196 worth of supplies



Small Animal First Aid Kit \$35
Contains \$65 worth of supplies



Storm Phobias

Storm season can be terrifying for some dogs, creating fear and anxiety. Dogs with storm phobias may run around barking, tremble, hide or run away. To assist our dogs in coping with storms you can try the following suggestions: offer them a safe place such as a small kennel or crate, desensitise by playing a storm sound using an app, bring them inside, buy them a Thundershirt and as a last resort, medicate. If your pet has struggled with a storm phobia in the past and nothing else has worked, it may be a good idea to have a chat with our veterinarians in case medications are needed before the storms roll in. Ensure your dog is micro-chipped and details current so that if they do escape and end up at a vet clinic or the Council, they can be reunited with you as soon as possible.



It's getting furry close to Christmas!

So you've got your pet a Christmas present, but are they up to date with their injections? If you're planning on going away, make sure vaccinations are up to date and you have enough medications for the time that you are away. Most of our common injections are safe to bring forward so make sure your pet will be covered for the period you are away. Contact us to check on your pet's vaccination status and obtain a vaccination certificate which may be required by boarding facilities.

We spoil ourselves over the Christmas period with lots of yummy foods but this invariably means our pets get their share as well (sometimes accidentally!). Be very careful feeding foods high in fats including what's in the household rubbish bin) as this can cause very upset stomachs and worse, pancreatitis. Not to mention all the foods that are toxic to our pets like; onions, garlic, chocolate, macadamia nuts, avocado, artificial sweetener (xylitol), alcohol, grapes and raisins, all of which are found commonly in Christmas spreads. Please don't feed any cooked bones or corn cobs which can cause intestinal obstructions and turn a pleasant holiday upside down very quickly!

A pet can't tell you what their name is, but a microchip can!

If your pet decides your holiday home is a better place to live than Townsville, you might be very grateful that their microchip details are up to date.

- Is your pet microchipped and are the contact details up to date ?
- Does your pet wear a collar with ID tags and your current phone number ?

