



Companion animals and floods

Have a flood plan

In a flood, you need somewhere safe to shelter. Your animals need somewhere safe as well. Planning ahead for your own safety and the safety of animals in your care is essential. Starting to develop your flood plan could be as simple as having a conversation with your household about:

- is your house/property flood prone?
- are you likely to need to evacuate and can your animals evacuate with you? Or do you need to make alternative arrangements?
- who else needs to know your plan? Think about family, neighbours and others who may be able to help.

Be prepared

- ✓ Include companion animals in your household emergency plan
- ✓ Prepare early – think about food, water and shelter
- ✓ Create an emergency kit with food, water, essential medications for several days; halters, leads, cages and bedding; vaccination records and contact details
- ✓ Move animals to a safe place early, for example when a flood watch warning is issued

- ✓ Companion animals should not be left unless it is impossible to safely evacuate them
- ✓ Do not leave shelter until flood waters have receded.

Remember: Small companion animals should be contained within the home at the first sign of an emergency. This ensures they are close at hand if you make the decision to evacuate.

Identification

Ensure companion animals are registered and microchipped, and contact details are up-to-date. Include proof of ownership/ identification records in your emergency kit.

Flood warnings

Flood warnings are issued by the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM).

Visit [emergency.wa.gov.au](https://www.emergency.wa.gov.au)



Pause for your PAWE – floods

Floods are stressful and making last minute decisions can be deadly. Writing down a **Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies (PAWE)** and including it in your flood survival plan can help ensure you make the best possible decisions to protect your animals. Ensure all members of your household are familiar with your flood plan.

Use the questions below as prompts to help you write down your plan. Write separate plans for different animal types as their needs will differ.

Survival plan for your animals' welfare in an emergency

1. Animals' names or types of livestock

2. Preparing your property

Where will we shelter during a flood?

What are the safest areas for animals on our property?

Will we move any animals? If so, where will we move them to? When and how?

What food, medications and other essentials supplies do we need to have on-hand before a flood?

What do we need in our flood emergency kit?

Are animal identifications up-to-date?

Are there any situations that need particular consideration? (e.g. freshly-shorn sheep, young stock)

3. What's our plan for after the flood?

How will animals be contained if fences and shelters are destroyed?

How will we access feed?

How will we monitor for and treat symptoms of pest and disease?

Emergency contacts

Regular vet _____

24hr emergency vet clinic _____

Important disclaimer

The Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and the State of Western Australia accept no liability whatsoever by reason of negligence or otherwise arising from the use or release of this information or any part of it.

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