



# Companion animals and storms

## Have a storm plan

In a storm, you need somewhere safe to shelter. Your animals need somewhere safe as well. Planning ahead is the best approach to help keep your animals safe during an emergency. Make a plan for how you will prepare for and respond to a storm. Work with others in your household and consider:

- what are the potential dangers around your house in the event of a big storm? What shelter do you have for your companion animals?
- what potential damage could a storm do at your house? Are there trees that could come down? Loose objects that could create problems?
- which animals can shelter inside with you?
- what shelter do outdoor-living companion animals? Is it storm proof?
- who else needs to know your plan? Think about family, neighbours and others who may be able to help.

## Be prepared

- ✓ Prepare property early
- ✓ Create an emergency kit
- ✓ Move animals or prepare shelter if leaving animals alone
- ✓ Do not leave shelter until storm danger has passed.

## Identification

Ensure companion animals are registered and microchipped, and microchip details are updated, to help facilitate their return in case they become lost. Include proof of ownership/ identification records in your emergency kit.

## Storm warnings

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

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



# Pause for your PAWE – storms

Storms can present dangers from flooding, wind, cold and lightning. Writing down a **Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies (PAWE)** and including it in your storm management plan can help ensure you make the best possible decisions to protect your animals. Ensure all members of your household are familiar with your emergency 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

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### 2. Preparing your property

Where will we shelter during a storm?

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What do we need in our storm emergency kit?

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Do we need a back-up power supply in case the power goes out?

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Are there particular animals that need special care? e.g. freshly-shorn sheep, young stock, a dog that is fearful of thunder

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### 3. Safer areas for animals

Where is the safest place on our property for animals during a storm? Which animals will shelter where?

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

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### 4. What's our plan for after the cyclone?

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

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How will we access feed?

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### Emergency contacts

Regular vet \_\_\_\_\_

24hr emergency vet clinic \_\_\_\_\_

#### Important disclaimer

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