



BISSELL PET FOUNDATION®
Until every pet has a home.



**ANIMAL INCIDENT
MANAGEMENT™**
A BISSELL Pet
Foundation® Initiative



ALTERNATIVES FOR PET TRANSPORT

Our nation's animal shelters are full, making crisis and disaster transport complicated. Placement for larger dogs is extremely limited. National organizations are transporting for **emergency only** when it comes to disaster response. This has been a frustrating adjustment, leaving shelters seeking alternative plans for pets.

Here are some tips you can try to empty your shelter when transport is not available:

- 1** Put out a media alert! Keep the community informed and tell them what you need. From supplies to foster homes, the community has resources available. Have a template created and ready to go with your disaster plan.
- 2** Reduce adoption fees and engage the community through local media. Many shelters have success with adoptions right up until the storm arrives. Explain why empty kennels are needed for local pets that may be impacted by the storm.
- 3** Find foster homes! Include a call out for foster homes in your media alert. Join Home to Home® and utilize the disaster platform to help find and track available fosters for shelter pets and pets of families displaced by the storm.
- 4** If you are in a flood zone, have a plan for a temporary shelter. Identify a building sufficient to house your pets in crates, provide accommodations for staff, and have crates and volunteers on hand. Talk to your city/county emergency management team to find a suitable building.
- 5** Identify a temporary transport buddy. Shelters in frequent storm or flood areas should identify peers who can temporarily take in pets. Get pets out of harm's way before the storm and bring them back when it is safe for pets and staff to return.
- 6** Use 1-5 in combination. Start with a media alert asking for adopters and fosters to reduce population. Join Home to Home® and engage their fosters. Move remaining pets and staff to a safe place or to temporary shelter out of the storm's path.

It is important to follow up with the community after the storm. Thank them for their support, and report on the pets remaining in your care. Together, we can adjust to the new normal of having fewer transport options available during an emergency. Be sure to have your City/County Emergency Manager's contact ready and check in frequently on needs.

Animal Incident Management Contact:

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