The Partnership for People with Disabilities is a university center for excellence in developmental disabilities at Virginia Commonwealth University. VCU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action university providing access to education and employment without regard to age, race, color, national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation, veteran’s status, political affiliation or disability. If alternative formats of this document are needed, please contact the Partnership for People with Disabilities at 804/828-3876 or 800/828-1120 (TDD Relay).

This project is funded by grant number 90DN0226 from the Administration on Developmental Disabilities, US Department of Health and Human Services. The contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and you should not infer endorsement by the Federal government. Please include this disclaimer when copying or using all or any part of the materials in dissemination activities.
Is Your Service Animal Ready for an Emergency?

What Do I Need for My Service Animal?
Of Course **YOU** are Prepared, but What About Your Service Animal?

- Amidst all your other preparations you need to consider what to keep ready for your Service Animal.
- Please remember that your Service Animal will be just as disoriented and upset as you will be. So be prepared, and understanding when the time comes.
Checklist

- Make sure I.D. tags and license are current.
- Be prepared to function without assistance from your service animal. Practice emergency drills using alternate mobility cues.
- Assemble a First Aid Kit.
- Assemble an emergency kit for your service animal.
Identification and Licenses

Having identification on your animals, including rabies and license tags, if applicable, may help reunite you with your Animal.

- Collar tag (a piece of tape applied to the back of the collar tag can provide evacuation site information – use waterproof ink)
- Microchip
- Tattoo
- Temporary neckband
- Waterproof pouch attached to collar with identification information inside.
Photocopies of Important Papers to Have in Evacuation Kit

- Vaccination records
  - Vaccination type and date
  - Rabies certificate, if applicable
- Medical conditions and medications (including drug name, dosage, and frequency of dosing)
- If you animal has a microchip, a record of the microchip number
List of Important Emergency Contacts

Prepare this list now before a disaster strikes

- Numbers where you may be reached (pager, cell phone, work phone)

- Out–of-state contact person

- Your veterinarian’s name, clinic name, and phone numbers
Proof of Ownership
(In Case you Get Separated)

➢ Keep current photographs of your animals in the evacuation kit for identification purposes. Include yourself in some of the photos to help you reclaim your lost animal.

➢ If your Service Animal has a microchip, call the company to register your pet’s information and make sure to keep that information updated.
Alternate Mobility Cues

- Pets and service animals may become confused, panicked, frightened or disoriented during and after a disaster.

- Keep them confined or securely leashed or harnessed.
Service Animals Kit (for 7 days)

Container suggestions: pack supplies in a pack that your animal can carry in case you need to evacuate.

This kit should include:

- Bowl for water and food
- Food for seven days. In some instances you should have 7 gallons of water also
- Blanket for bedding
- Plastic bags and paper towels for disposing of doo doo
- Neosporin ointment for minor wounds
- A favorite toy
- Extra Harness
What about my other PETS????

- Many emergency shelters will not accept pets other than service animals

- Talk to your veterinarian or local humane society in advance about an emergency plan for your pets

- Plan to leave your pet with family or friends

- If you do have to leave your pet at home, post stickers or signs on doors that are clearly visible from the outside
Thank You