

Prepare Your Home for Disasters

Prepare for earthquakes and ensure safety inside your home

When an earthquake occurs, furniture may tip over and cause injury or block evacuation routes. Be sure to securely fasten and position furniture properly. Also, be prepared for secondary disasters such as fires and injuries from broken glass.

Prevent furnishings from falling or tipping over

Place heavy or large items at the bottom of shelves. Use L-shaped metal brackets or tension rods to secure furniture. Line the shelves of cupboards with non-slip sheets.

Prevent electrical fires

Earthquake-sensitive breakers are devices that automatically cut off electricity when they detect shaking during an earthquake.

Bedroom preparations

Avoid placing furniture near your bed. Keep a flashlight and slippers nearby.

Keep exits clear

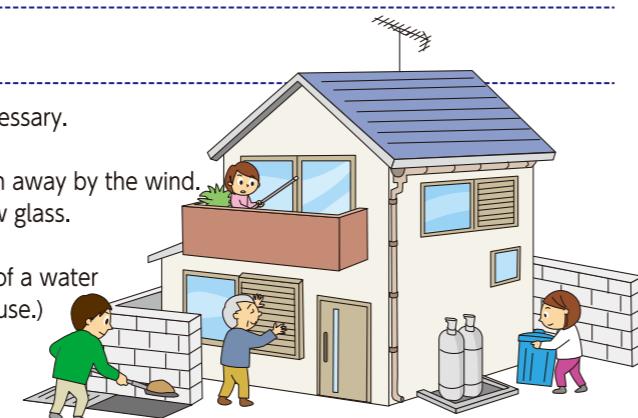
Avoid placing furniture or other items that may tip over in the exit route.

Indoor preparations

Affix shatterproof film and keep slippers nearby to protect your feet against broken window glass and tableware.

Preparing for Water Disasters

- Securely lock windows and shutters, and reinforce them if necessary.
- Clean gutters and drains to ensure good drainage.
- Secure or store inside your home any items that may be blown away by the wind.
- Apply shatterproof film or other reinforcing material to window glass. Close curtains or blinds as protection against flying items.
- Prepare water. (In addition to securing drinking water in case of a water outage, fill your bathtubs with water to secure water for daily use.)
- Confirm evacuation centers and evacuation routes.



Earthquake resistance diagnosis, earthquake resistance renovation work, demolition work

In order to promote the creation of an earthquake-resistant city, Kizugawa City is providing subsidies for earthquake resistance diagnosis and earthquake resistance renovation of wooden houses.

[Contact] City Planning Division Construction Department, Kizugawa City ☎0774-75-1222

Disaster Preparedness Measures for Pets

Disasters happen suddenly. In times of emergency, only owners can protect their pet. The first priority is for the owner to ensure their personal safety. In the event of an evacuation, it is essential for owners to evacuate together with their pets (accompanying evacuation). Being mentally ready and prepared on a daily basis is essential for owners to evacuate safely with pets, to avoid causing trouble for other residents, and to live with peace of mind.



Prepare your home for disasters

Making your home resistant to disasters will ensure the safety of both you and your pets.

- Check the earthquake resistance of your home
- Secure furnishings to prevent them from falling or tipping over
- Secure pet cages to prevent them from tipping over (if keeping pets outdoors, avoid placing them near exterior walls or glass windows)
- Secure a shelter (hiding place) for your pets, such as a cage

Healthcare and training

Pay attention to healthcare such as vaccinations and keep your pet's body clean. Train your pet appropriately.

- Vaccinations and removal of external parasites
- Brushing to remove loose hair
- Accustom your pet to its carrier bag or cage
- Train your pet to understand commands such as "wait" and "come," and to defecate in designated locations

Discuss with family and cooperate with neighbors

Consider various possible scenarios and discuss disaster prevention with your family, neighbors, and fellow pet owners.

- How to contact family members and where to meet
- How to evacuate your pet and how to allocate responsibilities
- How to deal with disasters while you're away and a system of cooperation
- Securing a place where you can leave your pet to be taken care of in an emergency

Clearly indicate ownership

In case you get separated from your pet, make sure to always have two forms of identification on your pet; for example, a pet ID tag and a microchip.

- Pet ID tag, rabies vaccination certificate (for dogs)
- Tag that externally visible (leg band for birds, etc.)
- A microchip is a form of ID that will never fall off

Gathering information and evacuation drills

Check the disaster risks, etc., in your residential area and time required to reach an emergency center.

- Routes and travel times to evacuation centers
- Check dangerous areas and detours
- Participate in evacuation drills together with pets
- Consideration for people who don't like animals

Ensuring the safety of people/animals and accompanying evacuation

When a disaster occurs, first ensure your own safety. Stay calm and protect yourself and your pets.

- Gather information and decide if you need to evacuate to an evacuation center
- Keep dogs on a leash or harness (be sure they are securely fastened)
- Put cats and small dogs in a cage or carrier bag
- Secure the door of the carrier bag with duct tape, etc.
- It is a good idea to wrap cages in a cloth, etc., to make animals feel safe in the dark.

Stockpiling supplies for pets

In principle, the owner is responsible for disaster preparedness involving pets.

- Therapeutic food, medicine (be sure to prepare for pets with medical needs)
- Enough food and water for 5 days, and dishes
- Spare collars and leashes (that do not stretch)
- Records of the owner's contact information and pet information
- The following items are also useful: Pet sheets, toilet supplies, laundry nets (to prevent cats from escaping, etc.), favorite toys, scented towels, brushes, duct tape, newspapers, blankets (large enough to wrap the pet's body), etc.

Evacuation centers and temporary housing

A variety of people and animals gather at evacuation centers, including people who dislike animals, people with animal allergies, and young children. This environment can also cause pets to become sick due to stress.

- Pet owners should be more considerate of others than usual (in particular, there are often problems related to pet feces and urine)
- Pet owners are responsible for caring for pets and providing food
- Pet owners should cooperate and help each other
- Share support supplies and information
- Make use of support from veterinarians and volunteers
- Pay attention to the health of your pets