



For Immediate Release
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TAHC Encourages Animal Owners to Make Preparations for Severe Weather Over Weekend

AUSTIN, TX – As the state prepares for a Tropical Storm to make landfall along the Southern Gulf Coast, the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) encourages animal owners to take the necessary precautions to protect their animals and themselves from anticipated heavy rain, strong winds, and potential flash flooding.

"Throughout the weekend, Texans should heed the guidance from local officials and remain vigilant against this severe weather to keep themselves and their animals safe," said Dr. Andy Schwartz, TAHC Executive Director. "Livestock and companion animal owners are urged to follow these preparedness and safety tips before severe weather events."

Livestock: Preparing for Severe Weather

- Know the types of flood risk in your area. [Visit FEMA's Flood Map Service Center](#) for information.
- Maintain an inventory of the livestock on your ranch.
- Have identification for all livestock (ear tags, tattoos, brands).
- Identify alternate water or power sources.
- Make an evacuation plan to identify routes and safe locations (higher elevation) for your livestock.
- Establish a safe environment for animals.
- If you come across stray livestock or down fences, contact your local sheriff's department.
- If your animal needs medical assistance, contact your local veterinarian.
- Put together an [emergency go kit](#).
- To find out more about livestock preparation visit <http://www.prep4agthreats.org/Assets/Factsheets/Floods-and-Your-Livestock.pdf>.

Pets: Preparing for Severe Weather

- Know the types of flood risk in your area. [Visit FEMA's Flood Map Service Center](#) for information.
- Use a microchip or collar ID with up-to-date contact information.
- Know where to look for your pet if they are afraid so that you can evacuate faster if needed.
- Carry a picture of you and your pet in the event of separation.
- Take a pet carrier or crate with you for transport and safe keeping.
- If you come across stray pets, contact your local animal control.
- If your pet needs medical assistance, contact your local veterinarian.
- Put together an [emergency go kit](#).
- To find out more about pet preparation visit <http://www.prep4agthreats.org/Assets/Factsheets/Floods-and-Your-Pets.pdf>.

For more severe weather safety tips, visit [ready.gov](#).

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