

# EARTHQUAKE TIPS

## FOR OWNERS OF SERVICE ANIMALS AND PETS

Earthquakes can be a frightening experience for the animals in our lives. They can become confused, panicked or disoriented in and after a disaster. By planning ahead you can help keep your pets and service animals safe and secure following an earthquake. In addition to the usual earthquake preparedness activities, you may find the following information especially helpful.

### Identification Tags and Licenses

Animals can become separated from their owners during/after an earthquake. You can increase the chances that they will be returned to you if you:

- make sure your animal's license is current. Owners of service animals can obtain a free license through the City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services (call 213 473-7550).
- provide your animals with identification tags that have both your home telephone number and that of your primary out-of-town contact person.

### Animal Care

- Talk to other animal owners in your neighborhood. In case you are not home, there will be someone to help your animal.
- After the disaster, your animals may need to be calmed and comforted, and prevented from running away. Keep them confined or securely leashed or harnessed.
- In the event that you become separated from your service animal or the animal is unable to assist you, be prepared to use alternative ways to navigate your environment.
- Plan how your animals will be cared for if you have to evacuate. Service animals can accompany you to an emergency shelter. However, other pets may not be allowed in the shelters, so identify several animal shelter options ahead of time. Contact your local Red Cross chapter, state office of emergency management or the City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services for guidance.

### Earthquake Kit for Service Animals

Prepare an emergency care kit to provide for your animals needs for 7 days. Pack the supplies in a container that the animal can carry, in case you are evacuated. Include:

Food	Plastic bags and paper towels for disposing of feces
Favorite toy	Bowl for water and food
Extra harness	Blanket for bedding
Neosporin ointment	

(for minor wounds, which are common following an earthquake)

Check with your veterinarian to see if there is anything specific you should include for your animal.