

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NAPPS Provides Safety Tips to Pet Parents in Earthquake Prone Areas

NAPPS Offers Pet Parents Tips for Earthquake Safety

MOUNT LAUREL, N.J., May 25, 2012- Thousands of earthquakes continue to disrupt the United States each year, leaving behind a devastating aftermath of destruction. If faced with an earthquake emergency, it's imperative that pet parents are able to offer safety and shelter for their furry friends. The National Association of Professional Pet Sitters (NAPPS), a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the welfare of animals, is raising awareness about the importance of comprehensive plans and emergency preparedness to ensure the complete safety of pets when an earthquake strikes.

Like most natural disasters, earthquakes occur without little or any warning and although the trembling may last for only a few minutes, the effects can result in permanent damage. In 2012 alone, the United States has recorded over 1,230 earthquakes with a magnitude of 4.5 or higher.

“An earthquake may be unexpected, but immediate actions are required to ensure safety of all people and their pets,” said John D’Ariano, president of NAPPS. “It’s crucial for pet parents to establish plans and remain calm during these urgent situations in order to help reduce panic for themselves and their pets.”

NAPPS urges pet parents to consider the following tips in order to prepare for an earthquake:

- Complete pet identification forms for each pet in the household
- Familiarize yourself with the emergency plans offered by local public safety agencies and other government providers.
- Contact your vet for window alert stickers to show rescue workers the number of pet family members living in your home
- Plan multiple evacuation routes for your pets—don’t rely on one exit in case of an emergency
- If you are a pet parent to horses, make arrangements for a temporary shelter at a safe location. Be sure to pack portable fencing for a temporary corral
- If possible, keep a large animal trailer hitched at all times to a dedicated vehicle with a full gas tank for a smooth and quick evacuation for horses or other livestock
- Prepare an emergency supply kit for your pets. Include an identification form with photos, a microchip number and shot records. Pack enough food and water supply for several days and include veterinarian and emergency contact information. A first aid supply kit and a three-week supply of medications should also be handy. Keep the emergency kit in a sealed, waterproof bag or container
- Hire a professional pet sitter to offer extra comfort to your furry friends, post-earthquake. This will help reduce stress and ensure a quick emotional recovery

NAPPS’ Emergency Planning Committee has provided an emergency planning guide that includes specific recommendations for monitoring and coping with earthquakes. The manual is available for free download by visiting www.petsitters.org.

The NAPPS website offers a nationwide referral network as a valuable online resource for locating professional pet sitters across the country. Accessible directly from the NAPPS Web site, www.petsitters.org, this free service provides contact information for all NAPPS member pet sitters and pet sitting companies in the area.

About NAPPS: NAPPS is the only national nonprofit trade association dedicated to serving the needs of professional pet sitters. The Association aims to help the pet owning public, those interested in pet sitting, and professionals engaged in the in-home pet care industry by fulfilling its vision statement, serving as "the most respected authority in professional pet sitting." It does so by providing the tools and support to foster the success of its members. Additionally, pet parents can benefit from NAPPS' free resources including a disaster preparedness guide, tips on how to select a pet sitter, and a nationwide referral service,. To find a pet sitter in your area, check out NAPPS' nationwide "Pet Sitter Locator" at www.petsitters.org. For more information on NAPPS, please follow [@TheNAPPS](https://twitter.com/TheNAPPS) on Twitter or join us on Facebook at facebook.com/TheNAPPS.

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