Gather information about your area and take part in evacuation drills.

Check the disaster mitigation plans for your area, and identify evacuation shelters and multiple evacuation routes so that you can evacuate safely. Perform a family drill to see how your family can reach the evacuation shelter with your pet. Check how long it will take to get there and identify any hazards that you might encounter along the way. Also, discuss how pet owners can evacuate with their pets at disaster response meetings and evacuation drills held in your area.



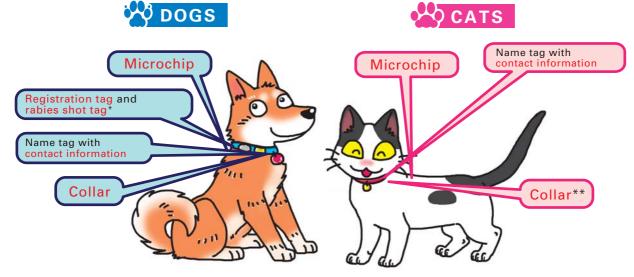
Disaster drill checkpoints

- The time it takes to reach the evacuation shelter
- Areas with hazards such as broken glass or falling signboards
- Alternative routes in case your route of choice is inaccessible
- Your pet's reaction and behavior at the evacuation shelter
- Care for people who are not comfortable around animals



Name tag and microchip

Make sure that identification is attached to your pet at all times. Attach a name tag, leg ring for birds, etc. You can take the extra step of microchipping your pet as a semi-permanent means of identification.



- *The Rabies Prevention Act requires dog owners to have their dogs wear their registration tag and rabies shot tag.
- ** To prevent cats from becoming trapped, cat collars should be designed to come lose when force is applied.



There have been many cases where smaller dog breeds and cats that usually spend all of their time indoors went outside in a panic during a disaster and consequently went missing. Make sure to leave their collar on at all times. Additionally, some pets may lose their collar due to weight loss while they are lost away from home, so be sure to microchip them as well.



Other animals

Use leg rings and ear tags depending on the type of animal, and be sure to microchip them.