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Keep Pets Safe Before & After Beryl Hits the Texas Coast

Houston SPCA Strongly Encourages Residents to Bring Pets Indoors Now

HOUSTON (July 7, 2024) – The Houston SPCA strongly encourages residents to bring outdoor dogs and cats inside with the arrival of Tropical Storm Beryl in the early hours of Monday as tropical-force winds and rain are expected to hit the Gulf Coast including the greater Houston area.

“It’s important to manage everyone’s stress levels in your home during a natural disaster like Beryl including pets, especially if at some point decide its best to evacuate,” said Dr. Roberta Westbrook, Chief Animal Welfare and Medical Officer at the Houston SPCA.

The Houston SPCA Adoption Center will not be open on Monday, July 8 in anticipation of Beryl and the summer program, Critter Camp will not meet on campus. Please check the website for the most up-to-date information.



During the storm:

- Create a safe place for pets, such as the inside of a pet crate in a quiet room. This will keep them from hiding and enable you to evacuate more quickly if necessary.
- Place some of their favorite toys in their crate, as it can help lower anxiety levels.
- Just like your other family members, make sure your pet isn’t near windows or shelves during a disaster.
- Take your pet with you if you find the need to evacuate quickly.



After the storm:

- If your pet is lost after Beryl, there are steps to take within the first 24 hours to help find your missing pet.
 - Visit the Found Animals page at HoustonSPCA.org to view pets found and in our care. You can also submit a lost pet report there as well.
 - There is also a list of resources to help with your search including other animal shelter’s contact information, posting to social media and online community boards such as Nextdoor.

As the lead agency during natural disasters for pets in the greater Houston area since the early 1980s, the Houston SPCA’s Emergency Response Team is currently preparing to respond to calls for help in the aftermath of Beryl.

During Hurricane Harvey, the Houston SPCA Emergency Response Team:

- **Rescued 2,300** Harvey-impacted dogs, cats, equine, farm animals, and native wildlife.
- **Reunited 300** animals with their original owners, including 88 horses.
- **Distributed 120 tons** of donated pet food and supplies throughout the community.

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