

## Emergency Preparedness for Birds

Things to do ahead of time and kept in an easily accessible place to ensure you have what you need, when you need it.

**First Aid Kit:** Include gauze bandage roll, Stiptik powder (to stop bleeding -- corn starch does NOT work for bad bleeding. Available at pet stores), tweezers, needle nose pliers, hydrogen peroxide, antibacterial ointment. For a complete list of items see Bird First Aid below.

**Travel Carrier with Food** set up and ready to go in case of an evacuation. You can store some containers of non-perishable seeds and nuts in the carrier as well, so they will be right there too.

**Missing Posters** You don't want to be having to make these when you're trying to look for a lost bird. Make them ahead of time and have a good supply on hand, then you can send someone out to make more copies if needed. [Sample Lost Poster](#) .

**Lists of Important Numbers and Information *Pet Information* ---** Include band and/or microchip numbers, detailed descriptions, info on diet & medications, insurance, etc. For your easy reference and also in case someone else has to take care of them for you. [Information Sheet \*Important Contact Numbers\* ---](#) Vets, emergency clinics, shelters, rescue organizations, microchip registry, etc. [Important Numbers](#)

**CD of Your Bird Singing** This can be a big help in locating a missing bird. Record one of your birds morning vocalizing sessions for a few minutes and burn it to a CD for your emergency kit.

### Have An Emergency Plan.

- Birds should be transported in a secure travel cage or carrier.
- In cold weather, make certain you have a blanket over your pet's cage. This may also help reduce the stress of traveling.
- In warm weather, carry a spray bottle to periodically moisten your bird's feathers.
- Have recent photos available, and keep your bird's leg bands on for identification.
- If the carrier does not have a perch, line it with paper towels that you can change frequently.
- Keep the carrier in as quiet an area as possible.
- It is particularly imperative that birds eat on a daily basis, so purchase a timed feeder. If you need to leave your bird unexpectedly, the feeder will ensure his daily feeding schedule.
- Items to keep on hand: Catch net, heavy towel, blanket or sheet to cover cage, cage liner.

**Microchip your bird.** Many shelters do routinely check found birds for microships now. It can save you time finding your bird, as well as providing positive ID that it is yours. The chip plus brief anesthesia for implanting typically cost about \$50-75, and there is a one-time activation/registration fee of \$10. Additional pet recovery services such as automatic contact of vets and shelters with your pet's information and picture can be added for a small annual fee. For more information contact your vet or [Home Again](#) .

[Bird Evacuation Kit](#)  
[Bird First Aid Kit](#)

