



# Gulf Coast Veterinary Center



July 1<sup>st</sup> – September 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023

## Hurricane Preparation

Preparing in advance of a hurricane is the best thing to do. It's simple, quick and will save you worry when it comes time to put your hurricane plan into action.

The following are just a few things to consider when preparing for a hurricane for your pets include:

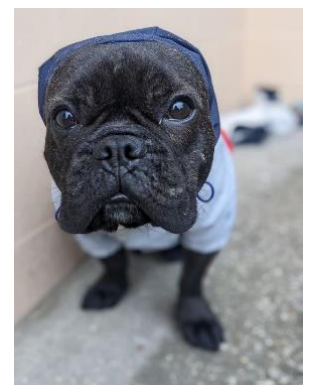
- A list of miscellaneous supplies you and your pet might need at home or at a shelter in case you need to evacuate.
- A bag of survival supplies with food, water, and medications for both you and your fur babies.
- A list of the closest locations of pet-friendly shelters and regional animal emergency centers.

A hurricane emergency kit for your pet should include:

- Enough food and bottled water to last one week or more
  - Beware of your pet drinking flood water since it's often contaminated with mold and bacteria, making it unsafe to drink. If you can't drink it, neither should your pet.
- Pee pads, litter boxes, poop bags, and paper towels for cleanup.
- Medical records, name of veterinarian, medication, feeding schedule, and current photos of your pet(s).
  - These items can be particularly important if your pets need to be boarded, or if you become separated from them.
- Toys or treats to ease stress.
- A 1-to-2-month supply of pet medications is needed, as they may be difficult or impossible to find during and after a hurricane.
- Roomy carriers that allow your pet to move around, ensure safety, and help them to feel more comfortable during their confinement.
- Sturdy, extra leashes that have reflective tape or flashlights.
- A hand-powered can opener to open any food cans.
- First aid pet kit to help stabilize your pet in case of injuries, until veterinary care is found.

## DID YOU KNOW?

We've partnered with Veterinary Emergency Group (VEG)! They will be offering discounted continuing care for your pet if they have had a surgery that requires hospitalization or are being hospitalized for any reason at VEG, they have 24-hour care where someone is always in the building with them! They will also use any of our blood work, x-rays, or previous treatment that we have done at Gulf coast.



Meet Emma! She is a receptionist and a technician here at Gulf Coast. She loves being able to greet all your fur babies when walking in the door as well as being able to stand alongside the Drs. to help your pets with the best treatment plan!



Meet Sampson he is 13 years old and living his best life on retirement! He loves to swim, go boating and soak up the Florida sun. Sampson craves belly rubs, frozen yogurt and his favorite movie is the Lion King. We all adore his little Sampson stomps when he comes in for visits!

### Senior pet Awareness Quarter!

This Quarter we will be focusing on our Senior furry friends. We will be offering a package for both canine and felines over the age of 7. Please ask your doctor or technician about this special to see if your pet is the right fit! Feline package will include an exam, bloodwork with FPL test, urinalysis, CBC and blood pressure. Canine package will include your exam bloodwork with cardio pet, urinalysis, CBC and blood pressure. Both packages will have a set price and there will be no substitutions.



**Before**



**After**

### Special Case by Dr. Hamilton

We had a most interesting case this month: A very cute 12-month-old Frenchie presented with scoliosis; grade 2-3 holosystolic heart murmur; hyperextension of the front legs and ulcerated pendulous mass in the mouth. The left eye has a corneal lesion present. On examination pet is slightly underweight and has neurological signs present. Murmur present loudest in the left side of the heart. The mass in the mouth is malodorous and ulcerated. The gum line is swollen and black with pus present with apparent displacement of the teeth. Surgery is absolutely needed. We may need to remove several teeth and the jawbone to completely remove the tumor. Before we can proceed to surgery however, we need to evaluate the heart function with an echocardiogram and organ function with blood work to ensure we have as few complications as possible. Fortunately, bloodwork showed normal organ function and the echocardiogram was normal. Now to proceed with the surgery On surgery day we do our pre-surgical examination as usual and find that the heart murmur is gone, and we induce the pet and put her under anesthesia and examine the mouth. We find that all infection has resolved, the gums are no longer black, and the teeth are no longer displaced. (yeah antibiotics) Radiographs reveal that the teeth bone structure underneath is healthy and the roots of the teeth are not infected. This means no extractions needed and no need to remove the jawbone (surgery just got way easier). We were able to remove the mass with no complications or compromise to the nerves in the tongue and closed the site in 2 layers with 4.0 PDS suture. Recovery was uneventful and our puppy recovered without any complications. Results of the mass showed that it was in fact NOT a tumor. It was instead excessive growth of the gum tissue caused by the puppy chewing its own gums resulting in severe infection in the mouth and excessive tissue growth.

### CONTACT US

Linebaugh: (813)-746-3979  
 6902 Linebaugh Ave Tampa, FL 33625  
[gcvcfloida@gmail.com](mailto:gcvcfloida@gmail.com)  
[www.gulfcoasttampa.com](http://www.gulfcoasttampa.com)  
 Gunn Hwy: (813)-772-2311  
 6180 Gunn Highway Tampa, FL 33625

