

## Leaving pets behind

Pets should only be left at home when it is absolutely impossible to move them in advance or for pet owners to take them with them.

Pets left at home during a cyclone should not be tied up. In a flood, pets should have shelter on higher ground with an escape route should water levels rise. If evacuating a fire front, pet owners should remove all collars, tags and gear so they do not burn the animal. If possible, pets should be doused with water and then released.

Owners may have to make some hard decisions regarding the welfare of their pets. Any pet likely to suffer a painful death should be put down humanely.



## The Animal Welfare Branch

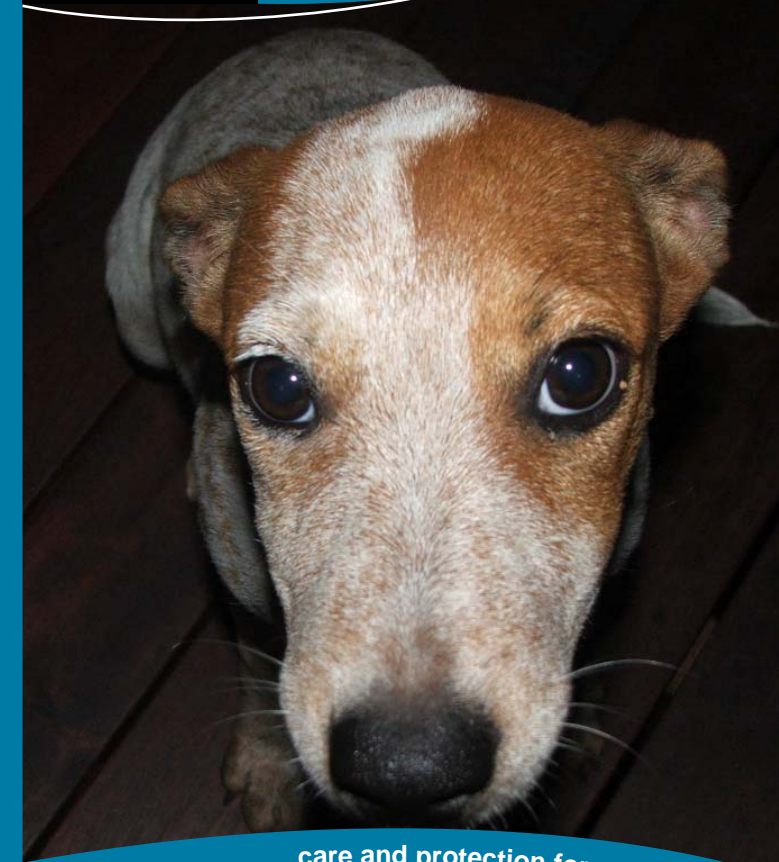
The functions, powers and responsibilities of the Animal Welfare Branch are defined and determined by the *Animal Welfare Act* the objectives of which are to:

- ensure animals are treated humanely
- prevent cruelty to animals
- promote community awareness about the welfare of animals.

The Animal Welfare Branch also provides advice to the minister responsible for animal welfare, issues licences for research and teaching involving animals, investigates animal welfare reports and prosecutes offenders.

Acts of cruelty or other offences defined in the *Animal Welfare Act* can mean severe penalties for offenders.

For more information visit  
[www.nt.gov.au/animalwelfare](http://www.nt.gov.au/animalwelfare) or call the  
Animal Welfare Branch on 1300 720 386.



care and protection for our animals

looking after  
**your pet's health**  
*in a natural disaster*

Pets are an important part of the family and owners should especially cater for pets when planning for natural disasters such as a cyclone, flood or fire.

Pet owners should plan well ahead to avoid any unnecessary risks and anxiety for pets.



## Stay or go

Pet owners should decide ahead of time if pets will stay at home or be relocated. It is important that pet owners also act early to avoid any unnecessary risks.

## Staying home

If pet owners decide to stay at home with their pets, the animals should be brought inside and kept in a secure room where they are safe and comfortable with an adequate supply of food, water, toilet litter tray or newspapers and bedding.

## Care outside danger area

If the pet is at risk at home, owners should arrange for a responsible person outside the danger area to look after the pet until the danger has passed and must ensure the carer has the pet's emergency pet pack.

## Emergency pet pack

An emergency pet pack should be prepared well in advance of the high risk season in case of emergency evacuation.

## The pack should contain:

- food and water for a minimum three days
- food and water bowls
- collar and lead
- blankets, towels and bedding
- pet first aid items and essential medicines
- pet medical history and veterinary contacts.

All animals should have identification and contact phone numbers attached securely to their collars

