



Protect Yourself from Dog Bites, West Nile Virus, and Carbon Monoxide Poisoning in Hurricane Disaster Areas

Prevention and Care of Dog Bites

Any dog that is loose may be lost, frightened, or hurt—and more likely to bite. Even dogs that are usually friendly may bite if they are scared or hurt.

- Do not approach or feed strange dogs.
- Do not disturb a dog that is sleeping, eating, or caring for puppies.
- If a strange dog approaches you, stay calm.
- Do not run from a dog and scream—be “still like a tree.”
- Avoid direct eye contact with a dog.
- If you fall or are knocked to the ground by a dog, curl into a ball with your hands over your head and neck. Protect your face. Try to stay still and don’t scream.

If you are bitten by a dog:

- Call 911 if emergency help is needed.
- Treat the bite wound:
 - Before treating the bite wound, wash your hands thoroughly with soap and clean water.
 - Remove jewelry or clothing that is in the way of treating the bite wound.
 - Apply direct pressure with a clean cloth to any bleeding wound to stop bleeding.
 - After bleeding has stopped, gently flood the wound with bottled water or clean running water (if available, sterile saline solution is preferred).
 - Gently clean around the wound with soap and water.
 - Pat dry and apply an adhesive bandage or dry clean cloth.
 - Leave unclean bites open. Bite wounds that are not cleaned correctly can trap bacteria and result in infection.
- Contact your doctor or hospital emergency department for additional care and advice.
- Report the bite to your local animal control agency. Tell the animal control official everything you know about the dog and where it went.

Protect Yourself Against West Nile Virus

- When outdoors, use insect repellent (DEET, picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus) according to the instructions.
- When practical, wear long sleeves and pants when you are outside, and spray with repellent for further protection.
- Fix or install window and doors screens to keep bugs outside.
- Drain standing water from outdoor containers or debris.

Prevent Carbon Monoxide (CO) Poisoning

Carbon monoxide (CO) can kill you or make you sick. You cannot see or smell CO.

- Never use a generator indoors or in a garage, carport, or basement.
- Keep the generator or pressure washer engine outside and away from doors, windows, and vents.
- Install a battery-operated CO detector near sleeping areas.
- Get medical help immediately if you or anyone in your household has symptoms of CO poisoning:
 - Headache
 - Fatigue
 - Dizziness
 - Nausea/vomiting
 - Confusion
 - Seizures
 - Loss of consciousness