



## Special Considerations For Ferret Owners

Disaster planning with ferrets poses a few additional challenges. One of the most important challenges which needs to be addressed is the ferret's extremely sensitivity to heat. Any type of disaster which shuts down electricity (and therefore air-conditioning) when temperatures are over 80 degrees could prove deadly for ferrets unless special care is taken to ensure they don't overheat.

Keeping ferrets in a shady location and slightly damp using a wet cloth or spray bottle will work well unless temperatures climb far above 80 degrees. Frozen food from the freezer can be wrapped in a towel for the ferrets to lay on to stay cool. These methods of staying cool would work if the outage is not expected to last long. For long-term care of ferrets in a heat emergency it's probably best to try to find a friend or family member who still has power and is willing to keep them a short while.

You may also want to consider investing in a power generator. Small generators powerful enough to power a small window air-conditioner is all that's needed and [prices start at around \\$139](#).

## When Pets Are Home Alone

Assuming you and your family leave home for school and work during the day, your pets are home alone for a considerable length of time each day. Think about how would deal caring for pets if a disaster should strike while you are separated for the day.

In the event of a fire or other emergency this [Free Pet Rescue Kit](#) is available from the ASPCA. The stickers they send should be filled out with appropriate information and placed on your front door telling rescue personnel where to locate your animals.

If you're close with a neighbor who is home all day you may want to consider talking to him or her about evacuating your pets if needed. Remember to give them a key and tell them where supplies are kept.

