



## Returning home after a cyclone

It helps to think ahead about what the physical environment might look and feel like when you return home.

### Safe to return?

Danger still exists after the immediate threat of a cyclone has passed. Beware of unsafe structures, debris and floodwater.

Only return home or emerge from shelter when told it is safe to do so.

### Check

If you have been evacuated, you will need to check your home environment's suitability for your animals for when they return. This includes:

- ☐ checking food supplies
- ☐ checking water for contamination
- ☐ removing debris
- ☐ checking fences
- ☐ checking for fallen electrical wires

When safe to do so, assess animals that were not evacuated. Check them for illness or injury sustained during the cyclone. Provide clean water, food and veterinary care. Badly injured animals may need to be euthanased.

### Bringing evacuated animals home

Only return animals after you have ensured their home environment is safe for them.

Cyclones can change the environment. As a result, animals may become disorientated, frightened, and aggressive when returning to their changed surroundings. Take care when releasing them.

Initially, monitor animals at least daily to ensure they are eating properly, have not sustained further injuries and are settling in.

### Managing food and water

Ensure your animals have access to safe drinking water and a reliable food source.

Ration any existing unspoilt feed until new feed can be accessed. Be cautious of food items stored in refrigeration, as power supplies may have been interrupted and food spoiled.

For information about how to access animal food supplies in your area.

Visit [agric.wa.gov.au](http://agric.wa.gov.au)

Concerns about the welfare of native animals can be directed to the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.

Visit [dbca.wa.gov.au](http://dbca.wa.gov.au)