PRINTABLE CHECKLIST

How do you look after pets in a power cut? Fish, reptiles and more

Fish and reptiles need help first, because their air, filters and heat stop at once. Wrap the tank or vivarium in blankets, stop feeding, and keep a fish tank's surface moving with a battery air pump or by stirring it. Run only low-wattage pumps and heat mats from a battery. Dogs, cats and small animals need three days of food and water, warmth, routine and a torch

- [ ] Three days of pet food and a manual tin opener
- [ ] Water for three days, measured from normal use
- [ ] A week of medication and the vet's numbers on paper
- [ ] Torch and reflective collar or coat for walks
- [ ] Blankets ready to wrap tanks and vivaria
- [ ] Battery air pump and spare cells for fish
- [ ] Safe temperature range for each species written on a card
- [ ] Power station sized for pumps and heat mats, charged
- [ ] Carriers, lead, bowls and records ready to grab
- [ ] Microchip details up to date