

## Federal Guidance

### **Community Emergency Response**

FEMA. November 2017. Available online at [https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1510231079545-1fab0e06d89d8c79c7b619e55a03/NIMS\\_Mutual\\_Aid\\_Guideline\\_20171105\\_508\\_compliant.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1510231079545-1fab0e06d89d8c79c7b619e55a03/NIMS_Mutual_Aid_Guideline_20171105_508_compliant.pdf).

The National Incident Management System Guideline for Mutual Aid is designed to help enhance mutual aid efforts by providing stakeholders with common practices and processes for use in mutual aid planning. It provides guidance on different types of mutual aid agreements, the key elements of a mutual aid agreement, and the key elements of mutual aid operational plans used for implementation. This document also describes how to create legal agreements and operational plans to support mutual aid planning.

### **Disaster Preparedness for Veterinarians**

American Veterinary Medical Association. April 2012. Available online at [https://ebusiness.avma.org/files/productdownloads/emerg\\_prep\\_resp\\_guide.pdf](https://ebusiness.avma.org/files/productdownloads/emerg_prep_resp_guide.pdf).

This program is designed to encourage veterinary leadership and guidance in local, state and federal efforts within the United States in preparation for disasters and emergencies involving animals, animal public health, and other veterinary issues.

### **Eligible Costs Related to Pet Evacuations and Sheltering**

FEMA. October 2007. Available online at [http://www.tahc.texas.gov/emergency/FEMA\\_DAP9523.19\\_PetsRecovery.pdf](http://www.tahc.texas.gov/emergency/FEMA_DAP9523.19_PetsRecovery.pdf).

This policy identifies the expenses related to state and local governments' emergency pet evacuation and sheltering activities that may be eligible for reimbursement following a major disaster or emergency declaration.

### **Emergency Animal Sheltering Best Practices**

National Alliance of State Animal and Agricultural Emergency Programs (NASAAEP). September 2014. Available online at <http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Emergency-Response/bpwg/NASAAEP-Sheltering-whitepaper.pdf>.

This document provides guidance to those responsible for emergency animal sheltering planning. This white paper is a working document that has been drawn from extensive existing sources, as well as a wealth of experience from animal disaster responders.

### **Saving the Whole Family**

American Veterinary Medical Association. 2015. Available online at [https://ebusiness.avma.org/files/productdownloads/STWF\\_English.pdf](https://ebusiness.avma.org/files/productdownloads/STWF_English.pdf).

This booklet includes information on emergency kits and plans for a wide variety of pets.

## Texas and Local Guidance

### **Animal Issues Committee Guidance Document**

Texas Animal Health Commission. Available online at <http://www.tahc.texas.gov/emergency/AnimalIssuesCommitteeGuidance.pdf>.

This document relays each step to forming an animal issues committee (AIC). An AIC is an opportunity to bring people with various types of animal expertise, both large and small animal, together so that emergency/disaster response animal issues can be addressed.

### **Galveston County Animals in Disaster Response Plan**

Galveston County Animal Services. March 2017. Available online at <http://www.gchd.org/home/showdocument?id=4698>.

This plan outlines the roles and responsibilities of a local animal response team.

### **Pet Evacuation Requirements in Texas Natural Disasters**

Texas Legislature. September 2007. Available online at [https://www.thln.org/pet\\_evacuation\\_requirements\\_in\\_texas\\_natural\\_disasters](https://www.thln.org/pet_evacuation_requirements_in_texas_natural_disasters).

In 2007, Texas HB-88 (Simba's Law) amended the Government Code to require the Division of Emergency Management to "assist political subdivisions in developing plans for the humane evacuation, transport, and temporary sheltering of service animals and household pets in a disaster."

## Other Guidance

### **Annex 17, Animal Protection (Emergency Support Function #17)**

Hillsborough County, Florida. February 2017. Available online at <https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/uasi-jtti/wp-content/uploads/sites/26/2018/03/07101540/Revised-FINAL-DRAFT-ANNEX-17-091620141-1.doc>.

This annex addresses operations for Hillsborough County's animal protection mission, which is divided into five major components: protecting animals in the pet resources shelter; emergency pet-friendly shelters; animal rescue and recovery operations; establishing temporary animal shelters; and coordinating and managing volunteers. In addition to a concept of operations, this document includes post-disaster mission operating procedures.

### **Cohabitated Human/Household Pet Sheltering Toolkit**

Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry. July 2018. Available online at <https://nationalmasscarestrategy.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Cohabitated-Shelter-Guide-LA.pdf>.

The purpose of this Toolkit is to offer functional guidance to aid in the establishment, operation and maintenance of Cohabitated Human/Household Pet (CHHP) shelters in response to an emergency associated with a natural or manmade disaster.



## **Pet Evacuation Shelter Guide for Staff**

Hillsborough County, Florida. June 2017. Available online at <http://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/uasi-jtti/wp-content/uploads/sites/26/2018/02/21073239/Staff-Pet-Friendly-Shelter-Plan1.doc>.

This plan was developed for the operation of a cat and dog friendly shelter for Hillsborough County, Florida. It was created through analysis of industry standards for animal shelters and other pet shelter programs throughout Florida, as well as ongoing experience. It includes protocols for volunteers, a facility checklist, suggested resources, and various forms.

## **Sheltering Animals and Families Together™ Start-Up Manual**

Allie Phillips, J.D. 2015. Available online at <http://alliephillips.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/SAF-T-Start-Up-Manual-2015.pdf?x10201>.

Although this manual was originally developed to guide domestic violence shelters on how to house families together with their pets, it proves useful for emergency shelters as well. The SAF-T Start-Up Manual sets forth three housing styles (with a fourth option for transitional housing) and answers questions how to safely house pets on-site at a shelter.

# **Forms, Checklists, Templates, and Other Helpful Tools**

## **Appendix 4 to Annex N, Animal Issues Committee Plan**

Texas Animal Health Commission. August 2004. Available online at [http://www.tahc.texas.gov/emergency/Animal\\_Issues\\_Committee\\_Plan.pdf](http://www.tahc.texas.gov/emergency/Animal_Issues_Committee_Plan.pdf).

This is a template available for every jurisdiction to add to Annex N: Direction and Control.

## **Brazoria County Livestock Owner Re-Entry Application/Letter**

Brazoria County AgriLife Extension. 2018. Available online at <http://houstonuasi.com/example-rancher-re-entry-letter-application/>.

This example letter and application can serve as a template application for livestock owners to re-enter early to assess their property so that their livestock can return safely.

## **Care and Treatment of Livestock after a Hurricane or Flood**

Texas A & M AgriLife Extension. Available online at <https://texashelp.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/care-and-treatment-of-livestock-after-a-hurricane-1.pdf>.

Hurricanes can put livestock in immediate danger of drowning from floods or storm surges in low-lying areas. This document addresses how to care for livestock after a disaster and what to look for when returning to a property that was affected by a hurricane.



## Memorandum of Understanding Sample Templates

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, July 2013. Available online at <https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/ncccp/doc/samplemoatemplate.doc>.

This simple template includes basic headings with a limited amount of guidance.

Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners, August 2014. Available online at [http://www.safeta.org/resource/resmgr/Forms\\_Library/MOU%20blank.doc](http://www.safeta.org/resource/resmgr/Forms_Library/MOU%20blank.doc).

This template includes boilerplate text that users can manipulate for their purposes. While the template is meant to establish an agreement for sexual assault response teams, the suggested language is generally not specific to that and can be easily changed.

## Pet Disaster Kit Checklist

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Available online at <https://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/resources/disaster-prep-pet-emergency-checklist.pdf>.

This checklist is designed to facilitate a smooth evacuation of owners and their pets. It addresses dogs and cats. Large animals and exotics will need special attention and a veterinarian should be consulted.

# Training Courses

## Animals in Disasters: Awareness and Preparedness (IS-10.A)

FEMA Emergency Management Institute. October 2015. Available online at <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-10.a>

This course increases awareness and preparedness among animal owners and care providers. It describes how typical hazards affect animals and what can be done by responsible owners to reduce the impact of disasters.

## Animals in Disasters: Community Planning (IS-11.A)

FEMA Emergency Management Institute. October 2015. Available online at <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-368>.

This course teaches how to develop a community plan for managing animals in an emergency, identify hazards and threats most likely to affect a community and ways to minimize their impact on animals.

## Animal Rescue Trainings

Various organizations. Information available online at  
Code 3 Associates <http://code3associates.org/training/animal-disaster-responder-academy/>  
Emergency Equine Response Unit <http://eerular.org/large-animal-rescue-training/>  
Basic Animal Rescue Training <https://bartsl.org/>

The *Animal Disaster Responder* (ADR) training courses provide in-depth, certified animal rescue training for humane or animal control officers, animal search and rescue (ASAR)

responders, and those who respond to the needs of animals during manmade and natural disasters. Cost many vary by agency.

### **Animal Technical Rescue Awareness Level Course**

College of Veterinary Medicine University of Florida. Available online at <https://xms.dce.ufl.edu/reg/groups/all/course.aspx?c=9760&ug=9>

This course contains information about techniques used for Animal Technical Rescue, including understanding scene size-up, recognizing the need for technical rescue, identifying necessary resources and determining how to obtain them, demonstrating equipment identification, recognizing the hazards associated with animal technical rescue, and describing the methods for mitigating these hazards. The course addresses topics covered by NFPA Standards 1670-17 and 1006-17. The course takes approximately seven hours to complete, and is approved for seven hours of continuing education by the Florida State Fire College. The cost of this course is \$100.

### **Livestock in Disasters**

FEMA Emergency Management Institute. October 2013. Available online at <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-111.a>

This course provides knowledge and understanding of the issues that arise when disasters affect livestock. This includes assessing a farm's susceptibility to hazards and identifying actions to reduce economic losses, human and animal suffering in disasters.

### **Livestock in Disasters, Unit Seventeen**

FEMA Emergency Management Institute. 2013. Available online at [https://training.fema.gov/emiweb/downloads/is111\\_unit%2017.pdf](https://training.fema.gov/emiweb/downloads/is111_unit%2017.pdf)

The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with the types of assistance available after a disaster and the role the USDA plays during a disaster.

### **Pet CPR and First Aid**

Pet Tech. Available online at [https://pettech.net/search/?type=pfa\\_class](https://pettech.net/search/?type=pfa_class).

This course provides CPR techniques, first aid skills, and healthcare and wellness information for dogs and cats.

## **Helpful Websites**

### **Find a Lost Pet after a Disaster**

Available online at <https://www.petfinder.com/>.

Petfinder is an online, searchable database of animals that need homes. It is also a directory of nearly 11,000 animal shelters and adoption organizations across the United States, Canada and Mexico. Organizations maintain their own home pages and available-pet databases.



## Go Pet Friendly

Available online at <https://www.gopetfriendly.com/>

GoPetFriendly.com provides information on pet-friendly hotels and restaurants in the United States and Canada. This sites also gives information on pet-friendly travel tools and destination guides.

## National Mass Care Strategy

Available online at <http://nationalmasscarestrategy.org>.

The National Mass Care Strategy website provides a unified approach to the delivery of mass care services by establishing common goals, fostering inclusive, collaborative planning, and identifying resource needs to build the national mass care capacity engaging the whole community, including under-served and vulnerable populations. It focuses on sheltering (including household pets); feeding; distribution of emergency supplies; family reunification services; immediate health, emotional, and spiritual health services, and access to information.

## Pet Disaster Preparedness and Recovery

American Red Cross. Available online at <https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/pet-disaster-preparedness.html#helping-pets-recover>

In an emergency, pets will be even more dependent on owners for their safety and well-being. This site offers guidance in preparing a pet emergency kit, pet emergency plan, and helping pets recover. Links to download the Pet First Aid App can be found here:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/pet-first-aid-by-american/id780415389?ls=1&mt=8> for iPhones and <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.cube.arc.pfa> for Androids.

## U.S. Pet Ownership Statistics

American Veterinary Medical Association. 2012. Available online at <https://www.avma.org/KB/Resources/Statistics/Pages/Market-research-statistics-US-pet-ownership.aspx>

Most communities do not have data on the number of households that own dogs, cats, birds, or horses, nor do they have data on the numbers of these pets in their communities. The formulas provided on this site can be used to estimate the number of pet-owning households and pet populations in a community. This data may be useful in approximating the capacity needs for pet shelters during a disaster.