

Pets & Disasters: Personal Planning

Training Guide



SART Training Media



Pets in Disaster: Personal Planning

Training Guide

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Published March 2005

SART Training Media are available for download from the Florida SART Web site www.flsart.org.

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About Florida SART

- SART is a multi-agency coordination group.
- SART is made up of over 25 partner agencies (state, federal and nongovernmental organizations).
- SART provides preparedness and response resources for Emergency Support Function 17 [(ESF 17) Animal and Agricultural Issues].
- SART statutory authority
 - State Emergency Management Act (Section 252.3569, Florida Statutes)

SART Mission

Empower Floridians through training and resource coordination to enhance all-hazard disaster planning and response for animal and agricultural issues.

SART Goals

- Support the county, regional and state emergency management efforts and incident management teams.
- Identify county resources available for animal and/or agricultural issues.
- Promote the cooperation and exchange of information of interested state, county and civic agencies.

Specific Learning Objectives

At the end of this training module, participants will be able to:

- Describe the potential risks you face
- List and discuss ways you can reduce risks
- Begin pet disaster kit checklist
- Name actions you can take to prepare for possible scenarios
- Identify key resources you can easily access

Resources

The following are sources of additional information about the subjects mentioned in this introduction.

For a complete listing of SART Training Materials, visit the Florida SART Web site.

www.flsart.org

The following is a source of additional information about the subjects and agencies mentioned in this module.

Florida Division of Emergency Management Emergency Response Team http://www.floridadisaster.org

Resources directly related to animals and disasters include:

American Red Cross

http://www.redcross.org/services

Topics include Pets and Disaster — Be Prepared, First Aid for Pets and Barnyard Animal Rescue Plan.

Animal Management in Disasters, Sebastian E. Heath, Mosby, 11830 Westline Industrial Drive, St. Louis, MO 64164. Available through many Internet booksellers.

Missing Pet Network

http://www.missingpet.net

Triumph Over Tragedy, Disaster Handbook Video Series: Helping Four-Legged Friends Survive the Storm (18 minutes).

The video can be viewed in its entirety at the National Ag Safety Database Web site, http://www.cdc.gov/nasd/

Humane Society of the United States Personal Planning

www.humanesociety.org/make-disaster-plan-your-pet

Resources, continued

The National Ag Safety Database has articles on handling horses and livestock safely. Go to "animals" under "Locate by Topics" at http://nasdonline.org/

Hawkins Guide on Equine Emergencies and Horse Trailering on the Road Blue Green Publishing Co., PO Box 1255, Southern Pines, NC 28388

Equine Trailer Rescue video, Horse Park of New Jersey, PO Box 548, Allentown, N.J. 08501

Animals in Disasters: Module A, Awareness And Preparedness, IS 10. Access this course at: https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-10.a

Animals in Disaster: Module B, Community Planning, IS 11. Access this course at https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-11.a

The following are sources of information on emergency management in general.

Federal Emergency Management Agency http://www.fema.gov

IFAS Disaster Handbook, prepared by the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

http://disaster.ifas.ufl.edu

Other parts of Triumph Over Tragedy, Disaster Handbook Video Series are: Surviving the Storm—Coordination
Communication and Cooperation (30 minutes)
A Community Response to Managing Post-Disaster Stress (45 minutes)

Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN)

https://eden.lsu.edu/

Occupational Safety & Health Administration's (OSHA) Emergency Preparedness and Response Page

http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/emergencypreparedness/index.html

Resources, continued

Other resources related to agricultural safety are listed below: **National Agricultural Safety Database (NASD)**

http://nasdonline.org/

Other related EMI courses are:

Introduction to CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams), IS-317

It provides background information on the concept of community members being able to work together during a disaster.

Access this course at: https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=is-317

Livestock in Disasters, IS-111

Access this course at: https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-111.a

Other courses that might be useful with this module include:

The Role of Voluntary Agencies in Emergency Management IS-288 Access this course at: https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-288.a

A listing of all the IS courses offered by FEMA can be found at: https://training.fema.gov/is/crslist.aspx?page=1



Pets & Disasters: Personal Planning

Appendix A - Training Slides









Planning Considerations • What resources do you need and what are available to you? How can you mitigate damage? • Who should you coordinate it with? Steps to Take • Develop a plan • Organize your resources • Fix up your home—mitigation • Prepare for possible scenarios: - Sheltering - Evacuation • Practice and train frequently State Agricultural Response Team Mitigation • What is mitigation? - Avoid or substantially reduce the potential damage to property • Advantages of mitigation Possibly reduce your insurance costs - Shorten recovery time after a disaster - Help you keep your home in good shape

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Special Considerations for Animals

- Toxic substances
- Heavy items
- Loose, blowing items
- Debris that could inflict cuts/punctures
- Evacuation time



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Your Finances

- Insurance
 - Keep current
 - Reflect replacement costs
- Available cash
 - Keep on hand
- Credit cards may not work
- Record-keeping
 - Keep copies of important financial records & papers
- Take photos or scan important documents and store in iCloud or other secure internet based account where the information can be retrieved even if all other storage methods are compromised



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Warning Systems

- Know <u>your</u> community's warning systems
 - Radio and TV stations
 - NOAA weather radios
 - Internet
 - Local emergency officials or police
 - Rumor control line



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Best Early-Warning System

Your own alertness

- Always pay attention to weather
- Take action when you think severe weather may be moving into your area, even if no official warning is given
- Bring your animals inside or confine them



Watch vs. Warning

- Watch: Conditions are ripe for severe weather to develop
 - Prepare!
- Warning: Severe weather has been reported or is imminent
 - Seek safety immediately

HIGH WINDS WARNING

URGENT - WEATHER MESSAGE

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TALLAHASSEE, FL1259 PM EST MON FEB

2005 ...VERY STRONG WINDS ARE POSSIBLE ALONG COASTAL WATERS FROM S OF PANAMA CITY TO S OF ST GEORGE ISLAND EXTENDING OUT TO 60 NM



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Special Needs

- If you have lots of animals, large animals or exotic animals...
- If you have very young, very old, handicapped or mobility impaired family members or animals...
- If you live far off the main road...

Plan more carefully and act sooner



Do You Need a Generator? • Electricity needed to clean water and provide heat for fish and reptiles • Power needed for pumps to supply water to horses & livestock State Agricultural Response Team **Preparing Disaster Kit** Considerations • See to your own specific pet and family needs • Needs vary for evacuation or for sheltering at home • Start simple, then add as needed State Agricultural Response Team Clothing • Clothing appropriate for specific hazards Heavy boots for walking through debris Rain gear for storms • Different needs depending on season • Comfortable and serviceable

Food Provide for both your family & your animals • May be perishable Cycle through dated items • For evacuation as well as sheltering in place • Foods that are edible & tasty without cooking • Foods that don't need to be reconstituted with hot water Water Generous amounts • For your family—1-2 gallons per day per person • For your animals—amount depends upon species • At least 3-5 days worth Clean containers • Rotate supply to maintain freshness • Extra water for cleaning for people & animals State Agricultural Response Team **Storing Disaster Supplies** Should be portable for evacuation Watertight containers

Easily accessible

Keep basic kit in your car

Location known to all family membersUse understood by all family members

Pet Emergency Kit for Car

- Water in plastic bottles, food & dishes
- Extra leashes, collars & toys
- Familiar blanket or thick towel
- Pet first-aid kit & normal medication
- Appropriate carrier
- Identification & records



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Other Supplies

- Tools
- Clothing & bedding
- Sanitation supplies
- Special items for pets
- Radio & flashlights & batteries for both
- Cell phones (with chargers)



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Identification of Your Animals

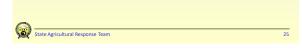
- Tags on collars (best option)
- Tattoos
- Microchips
- · Combination of methods
- Include phone number outside of your area
- Photograph of yourself with the animals
 - Helps establish ownership



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Pros & Cons of ID Methods

- Tag might fall off but can be read instantly
 Animal might be returned immediately
- Microchipping most secure, but possibly hard to read at a disaster shelter
- Tattoo won't fall off, often hard to read & no national registry to get the owner's information



Worksheet 1 Pet Disaster Kit Checklist Withdraft Is Peth & Broader Fell Breader NC CheckBet 1 And The Check Check Check Fell Breader NC CheckBet 1 And The Check CheckBet 1 And The CheckBet 1 And The Check CheckBet 1 And The CheckBet

Evacuate or Shelter in Place? State Agricultural Response Team 27

Evacuate or Shelter in Place?

What is sheltering in place?

- Staying indoors where you are
- Making yourself as safe as possible until the emergency passes or you are told to evacuate



Why Shelter at Home?

- Trend is now more toward sheltering in place
 - Means better mitigation measures are needed
- Used during or after emergencies in which you can be as safe or safer at home than on the road or in a remote shelter
- Potentially less stressful for you & your animals



When to Shelter in Place?

- Hurricane
 - If you are not in a vulnerable area and if your house is hurricane-resistant
- Hazmat emergency
 - For inhalant substance (except explosive), may be safer to be indoors than outdoors



Appendix A	A: Slides	s 28-30
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For Inhalant Incident Prepare as soon as possible Close all windows Bring in all animals that you can Close any outbuildings that house animals Close air intakes State Agricultural Response Team Preparing Your Animals

- Put pets in carriers or cages
- Practice so you will get some idea about how your animals will react

State Agricultural Response Team	32

Last-Minute Preparations

- Take your disaster supplies, family and pets with you
- Close windows shades, blinds or curtains
- Stay away from windows
- Go to an above-ground room if you are in a flood-prone area
- Stay in the interior of your house or a room with the fewest windows and doors



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Once You are Sheltered

- Listen to your radio or watch your television
- Don't come out until you are told all is safe or you are told to evacuate





Evacuation Planning





Evacuation Planning

Why prepare for evacuation?

- Don't be complacent
 - No one is immune
- Animals take more time to evacuate
- Planning helps you leave early & preserves your options



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Will You be Ordered to Evacuate?

Evacuation orders depend upon:

- Speed of onset of the disaster
- Threat to life anticipated
- Amount of damage caused or expected to be caused to dwellings
- Ability and availability of emergency services resources to support your needs at your location



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How Will You Know When to Evacuate?

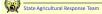
- Keep checking local warning systems—radio, television and Internet
- Listen for information about evacuation plans in your area
- You may not know at first whether you should evacuate or shelter at home

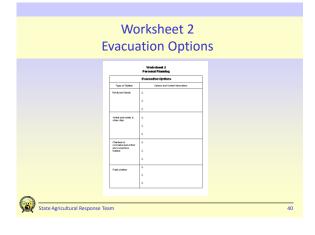


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Where Will You Go?

- Consider your support network of family and friends
- Pre-arrange a place to stay with people who will welcome you and your animals
- Use the Web sites and phone numbers for chambers of commerce and visitors & convention bureaus
 - May track hotel and motel availability
- Consider public shelters a last resort





Safety in Evacuation



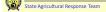
- Ask authorities for best evacuation routes
 - Avoid potentially hazardous areas
- Avoid congested areas, especially near rushhour travel routes
- Take routes you know
 Survey them in advance



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Other Considerations

- Plan your route to cover all family members
 - Home
 - Work
 - Schools
 - Pet sitter
- Time of day makes a difference
- Don't leave pets in parked vehicle
 - Even with windows open, temp can exceed 120 degrees Fahrenheit quickly
 - Running engine & AC can quit & pets can die



Be a Good Guest

- Have pet carriers or containers to use as dens
- Respect household or shelter rules





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Practice Evacuating

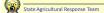
- Helps your family and animals know the drill
- Makes evacuation practice fun
- Invite several families to practice evacuation with you



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If Evacuation is Ordered

- Evacuate immediately when ordered to
- Take your disaster supplies
- Lock your home
- Follow your evacuation plan
- Listen to the radio for weather, news & evacuation instructions
- Maintain direct control of your animals



If You're Not Home when Evacuation is Ordered

- Notify appropriate authorities so that animals can be evacuated by animal responders
- Call a neighbor
 - Did you plan with your neighbors?

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Waiting until the Last Minute

- You might not be able to take your animals with you
- Emergency responders are trained and required to save human lives, not animals
- They may be taking physical and legal risks to help your animals
- Bottom line: Don't wait!



Recovery



First Steps Is it safe to come out? • Identify injuries • Identify hazards • Identify damage • Identify needs Coming Out? • Stay tuned to the radio or television • Remain sheltered until you know it is safe to • Don't leave an evacuation shelter until you know where you will go More Tips for Recovery State Agricultural Response Team

More Tips for Recovery

- Be prepared for a very different situation
- Be aware of particular dangers for your animals
- Den animals (and small children) are likely to try to hide in areas in which dangers may also be hiding



Dangers Afterwards

- Shock
- Gas and other hazardous materials
- Standing & moving water
- Dangers after fires
- Injury from above and underfoot
- Danger from animals
- Disease



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Shock & Electrical Problems



- Downed power lines from high winds
- Broken or twisted wiring
- Damaged fixtures and appliances

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Gas Leaks

- Sniff the air to detect gas
- Turn off the gas if it is still
- Open windows and leave the house
- Don't cause sparks
- Assume that if there is structural damage, gas lines could be broken





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Hazardous Materials

- Chemicals, sewage and other materials in flood waters or from overturned containers
- Animals may attempt to drink from puddles
 - -Especially if drinking water compromised & animals are thirsty





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Dangerous Household Fluids

- Medications
- Automotive fluids, particularly antifreeze
- Household cleaners
- Anything that carries a warning label is a potential threat



Appendix A: Slides 55-57

Standing & Moving Water • Can conceal dangerous debris • Unseen storm drains, swimming pools, sinkholes or dangerous currents **Dangers after Fires** Hot spots that might flare up • Charred & hot material from lingering and hidden fires • Toxic fumes Objects Falling from Above • Structural problems in homes • Tree limbs • Debris falling from trees

Danger Underfoot • Twisted debris with sharp edges • Unstable porches, etc. • Animals' feet are more vulnerable than • Wear protective clothing & footwear State Agricultural Response Team Structural Damage • Examine building from all angles on the outside • Buildings may be weakened & could collapse • Get an expert if you are not sure State Agricultural Response Team **Loose Animals & Exotics** Animals may behave erratically • This includes your pets, if uncontrolled • Be aware that exotics may have been released by the disaster

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Wildlife • Also affected by disaster • May be frightened and disoriented • May best be left to fend for themselves Wildlife in Houses • Wild animals may seek refuge from flood waters in the upper levels of your house • If you meet one face to face, don't panic • Make sure that the animal can escape • Open windows or doors, and the animal will probably leave on its own State Agricultural Response Team **Diseases** Mosquitoes & animal carcasses may pose disease problems • Example: West Nile Virus

Report Suspected Diseases

- Keep in touch with your local public health and emergency management authorities for warnings
- Report any problems that you encounter
- Use common sense and uncommon caution

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Watch for Emotional & Behavioral Reactions

- Unexpected reactions in yourself & in your animals
- Companion and service animals are especially vulnerable to human moods
- Sick or injured animals may behave unpredictably
- Handle only if you have training to do so



Disoriented Animals

- Loss of marker cues which tell them that 'this is home'
- Keep your pets contained or on leashes
- Accompany companion and service animals outside when they need to go
- Make sure that any damaged fences are repaired quickly



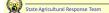
If You Get Separated from Your Pets



Looking for Your Pets

- Call and visit the local animal shelters
- Call the local animal control authorities
- Distribute posters with a description or a picture of your animals, area last seen & your contact information





Be Patient

- Many animals will hide or flee
- Search your neighborhood
- Make posters with the description of your animals
- Use the Internet, including free services such as the Missing Pet Network
 - http://www.missingpet.net



If You Find a Lost Animal

- Call the local animal shelter or animal control authorities
 - Describe the animal (color, breed, sex) & its location
- Don't try to handle an injured animal unless you are a professional or are familiar with animal handling techniques



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Getting Back to Normal

- Get your family members & pets back to their normal routines as soon as possible
- This is as important for your animals
 & children as it is for you



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Help Your Animals

- Pets will likely be disoriented & can become easily confused
- Walk your pets around your house and yard <u>on a leash</u> to reassure them
- Follow up with veterinary care, if needed



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Find Normal Things to Do

- Some parts of your routine may be hard to resume
 - If you don't have electric power yet, you can't watch television
- Find something else to fill that space in your routine
 - Reading out loud
 - Playing catch with your dog
 - Other recreational activity



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Resources

- SART Web site
 - -www.flsart.org
- Animal-related resources
- Emergency management resources
- Ag safety resources
- FEMA training



Summary & Wrap-Up

- Potential risks you face
- Ways you can reduce those risks
- What you need in your pet disaster kits
- Actions you can take to prepare for possible scenarios
- Key resources



Thank You

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