

BUILD IT AND THEY WILL COME

Pet Friendly Sheltering during Hurricane Mathew

WHAT WORKED?

More Pet Friendly Shelters than ever!

Problems associated with animals did not materialize

Shelters were full closest to impacted area

Counties that exercised their plans said this was key to successful operations



ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Estimated 70% did not comply with established requirements
- Pre-registrations were not effective
- Appropriate housing for animals
- Not enough supplies for animals
- ****People without animals using Pet Friendly sheltering****



ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

- No plan for Emergency Medical care, first aid kits, etc.
- Shelter staff was unclear of rules
- Staff to assist patrons with mobility issues
- No pre-established layouts/plans
- Registration paperwork, liability releases, sheltering agreements/expectations



ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT



- Who staffs the Pet Friendly Shelter?
- Trained Sheltering staff
- Who's in charge? ESF-6 or ESF-17 or ?
- Service Animals
- Knowing what you need
- Requesting supplies, who knows how?

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

ROUGHLY 70% DID NOT COMPLY WITH ESTABLISHED REQUIREMENTS

- Messaging, PSA's, Everbridge, etc.
- Vaccinations-Pre-Season vaccination clinics
- Vaccinations on site
- Quarantine area built into sheltering plan
- Comprehensive liability releases

PRE-REGISTRATIONS WERE NOT EFFECTIVE

- Messaging
- Working with other organizations to get the word out
- Moving away from pre-registrations

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

APPROPRIATE HOUSING FOR ANIMALS,
NOT ENOUGH SUPPLIES FOR ANIMALS

- Messaging
- Have back up supplies-cages, leashes, muzzles, bowls, litter, etc.
- Assume no one will bring correct supplies
- Set up for max capacity
- Have a local stocked Pet Friendly Shelter supply trailer/stock



POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS



NO PLAN FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE, FIRST AID KITS, ETC.

- Assign a Veterinarian to be “on call”
- VETS team
- Have a Vet Tech assigned to each shelter
- Have a basic Pet First Aid kit available
- All shelter staff trained in Pet First Aid and CPR
- Have flea and tick treatments available

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

SHELTER STAFF WAS UNCLEAR OF RULES

- Have protocol booklets included with sheltering supplies
- Pre-printed signs
- Establish protocols for patrons that violate the rules
- Exercise your plan!

STAFF TO ASSIST PATRONS WITH MOBILITY ISSUES

- Who assists these patrons? Pet staff or Human staff?
- Should persons with mobility issues go to Special Needs Shelters?

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

NO PRE-ESTABLISHED LAYOUTS/PLANS

- Pets housed in same room?
- Pet's housed in separate area?
- Plan for large to extra large crates (use paper cutouts to simulate cage)
- Lay it out on paper, include in Pet Friendly Sheltering packets
- Do this for each location



POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS



REGISTRATION PAPERWORK, LIABILITY RELEASES, SHELTERING AGREEMENTS/EXPECTATIONS

- Human and Pet registration paperwork - all in one or separate
- Sheltering agreement/Expectations
- Digital registration – NMETS
- Photos and printing
- Logs
- Liability releases
- Include in sheltering packet

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

WHO STAFFS THE PET FRIENDLY SHELTER?

- County employees can be cross trained
- Know your role
- Volunteer staff designated before disaster
- Update list monthly
- Assign per position not per person (If you normally work intake at shelter, you will work intake at Pet Friendly Shelter.)

TRAINED SHELTERING STAFF

- Ongoing training/cross training for shelter staff
- Online training
- Protocol booklets
- Exercise your plan!

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

SERVICE ANIMALS

- Allergies and fear of animals are generally not valid reasons for denying access or refusing service to people with service animals.
- You may ask if an animal is a service animal or ask what tasks the animal has been trained to perform
- Provide special housing arrangements for service animals

REQUESTING SUPPLIES, WHO KNOWS HOW?

- Understand ICS
- MAREs and Mini MAREs in each region
- You **MUST** request the supplies through appropriate channels

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

PEOPLE WITHOUT ANIMALS USING PET FRIENDLY SHELTERING

- Messaging
- Is this really a problem?
- Open more Pet Friendly shelters
- Open “No Pets Allowed” shelters

WHO'S IN CHARGE? ESF-6 OR ESF- 17 OR ?

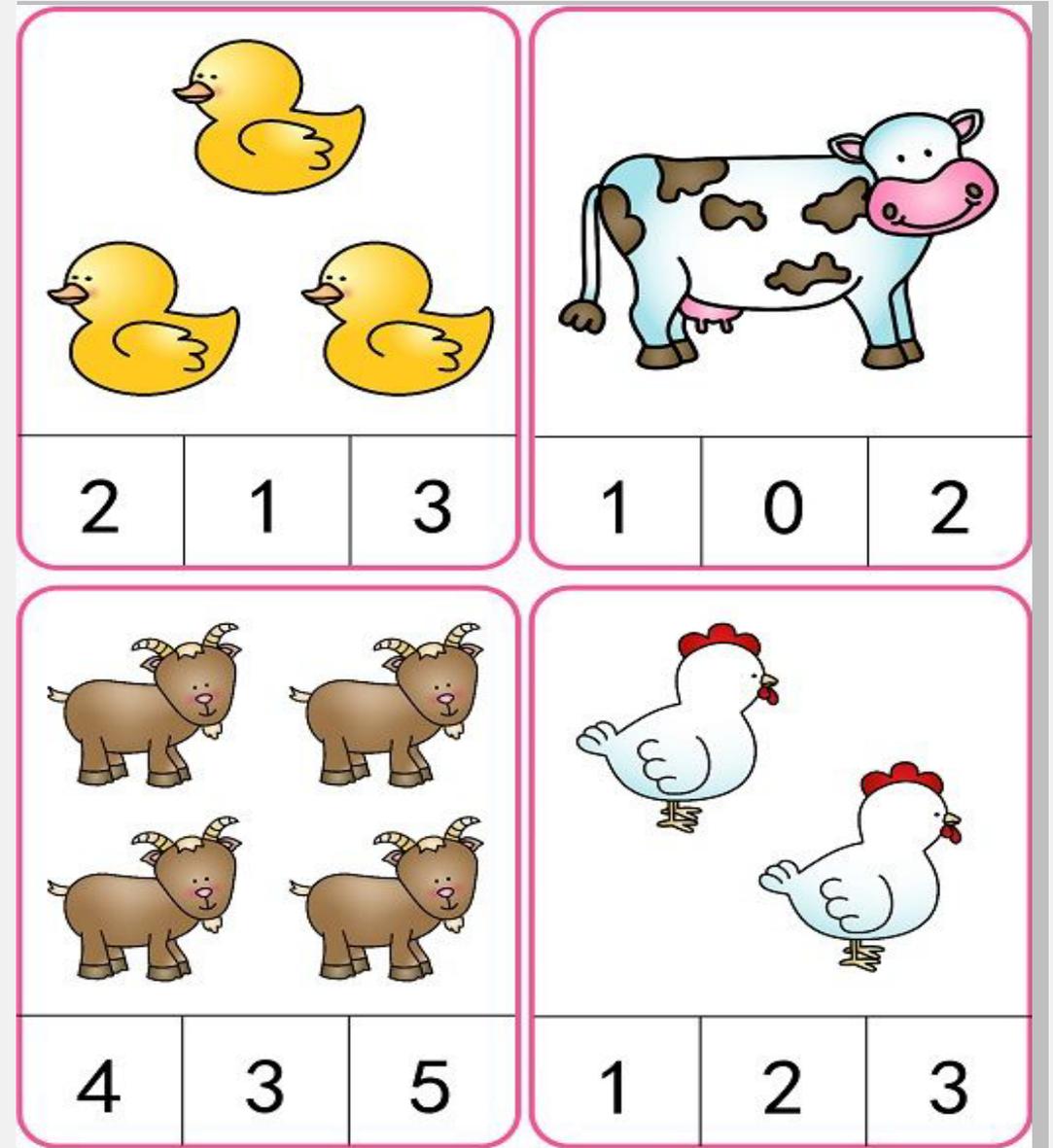
- Ongoing conversations and working groups
- Create a “Pet Friendly Sheltering Liaison” position to bridge the gap

A NUMBERS GAME

Over 1500 animals sheltered with their families

Pet Friendly Sheltering 2-4 people per location to care for animals

Emergency Sheltering would require over 100 people per day just to provide basic daily care!



PET FRIENDLY VS EMERGENCY SHELTERING

PET FRIENDLY SHELTERING

- 2-4 people per shelter x 10 shelters = 20-40 people per day
- Reduced stress for humans and animals
- Housing provided at locations
- Located in safe building closer to disaster area
- Cost effective

EMERGENCY SHELTERING

- Over 100 people per day to care for equal amount of animals, + support staff
- Increased stress for humans and animals
- Housing-trailers, tents, RVs, etc.
- Must be located far away from disaster area
- Costly.....very costly!

ALLERGIES

ALLERGY STATISTICS

- Percentage of all U.S. households with detectable levels of dog and cat dander: 100%.
- An estimated 10 percent of people are allergic to household pets, cat allergies are twice as common as dog allergies
- Use Allergy filters to cover air intakes
- Use Air Scrubbers



PEOPLE VS. PETS

20% have a child living in their home

56% -65% have animals living in their home.

42%-62% have more than one pet



II COASTAL COUNTIES

- 194 total shelters
- 21 Pet Friendly Shelters
- 10.82% of the total are Pet Friendly
- Number should be closer to 60% for Pet Friendly Shelters!!



BREAKING IT DOWN

More Pet Friendly Shelters

Easy access to training

Exercise your plan

Know what resources are available

Don't recreate the wheel

Designate a Pet Friendly Shelter

Liaison to bridge the ESF gap



QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

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