

New York State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan

Emergency Support Function #11

Temporary Emergency Animal Sheltering Appendix



**Prepared by the New York State
Disaster Preparedness Commission**

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List of Plan Revisions

Date of Revision	Subject Matter	Page(s)	Completed by
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Section I: General Considerations and Planning Guidelines

1. Introduction

New York State is subject to a significant number of hazards and has experienced numerous federally declared disasters. These disasters include floods, winter storms, coastal storms, severe summer storms, ice storms, a blackout in 2003, terrorism, and a pandemic over the past decade. Several of these events uncovered public health and safety issues, including a lack of planning and preparedness for animal protection. In order to adequately plan for animal welfare, the planning for animal health and safety must be tied to planning for human health and safety.

In September of 2006, New York State enacted the New York State Pet Evacuation Transportation Standards (PETS) Act. This legislation amended New York State Executive Law Article 2-B to require that State and local disaster preparedness plans address the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals following a disaster, with particular attention to means of evacuation, shelter, and transportation options. In October of 2006, the Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act and Federal PETS Act amended the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) to require that State and local disaster plans take into account the needs of persons with pets and service animals prior to, during, and after a major disaster or emergency.

In recognition of these laws and challenges, the Temporary Emergency Animal Sheltering (TEAS) Appendix was developed to accompany the Emergency Support Function (ESF) #11 Annex of the State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). This Appendix outlines New York State's strategy providing temporary emergency sheltering of animals in a collective, multi-agency, State-level approach.

This Appendix does not provide specific instructions for all disasters and emergencies. Rather, this Appendix offers information and guidance which provides the framework for addressing temporary emergency animal sheltering.

2. Purpose

The State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) has been structured into three distinct, but interconnected volumes. These are:

- Volume 1: All-Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Volume 2: Response and Short-Term Recovery
- Volume 3: Long-Term Recovery Plan

The purpose of the State CEMP is to identify the State's overarching policies, authorities, and response organizational structure that will be implemented in an emergency or disaster situation that warrants a State response. The State CEMP serves as the foundational framework for the State's response levels and serves as the operational basis of which other functional and hazard-specific annexes are built upon.

The purpose of ESF #11 is to provide coordination of response to manage a disaster resulting from an affected animal population (i.e., Foot and Mouth Disease), or one in which animals have become secondary victims of a disaster (i.e., flood). In addition, it provides an overview of the roles and responsibilities of the State, federal, and private agencies functioning under ESF #11 and describes the emergency response organization and assignment of responsibilities for various animal protection functions.

The purpose of this Appendix is to define the operational concepts and responsibilities to support and assist municipalities in establishing and maintaining the TEAS. These shelters will serve individuals with household pets and service animals displaced by the effects of an emergency or disaster, or when seeking protection from an imminent or actual hazardous event or conditions.

3. Scope

This Appendix applies to any disaster impacting or potentially impacting individuals with household pets and service animals in which local response capabilities have been exceeded, and thus require State assistance. Response operations to support this capability will encompass the efforts of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (DAM) and member agencies of ESF #11 as identified in this Appendix.

For the purpose of this Appendix, TEAS and pet-friendly sheltering refer to the capability to provide household pets and service animals with safe, temporary housing prior to and immediately after a disaster until they can return to their homes, can be relocated to long-term sheltering, or other permanent housing facilities are found. Service animals are not considered pets but perform essential functions that people with access and functional needs (AFN) cannot do for themselves. Service animals have special legal privileges to ensure they are not separated from the owner. According to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a service animal is any guide dog, signal dog, or other animal individually trained to provide assistance to an individual with a disability. Service animals are permitted in all American Red Cross (ARC) shelters. The ARC also has specific pet-friendly accommodations at shelters which will permit household and companion pets. Non-ARC shelter sites may vary in their policies regarding household and companion pets.

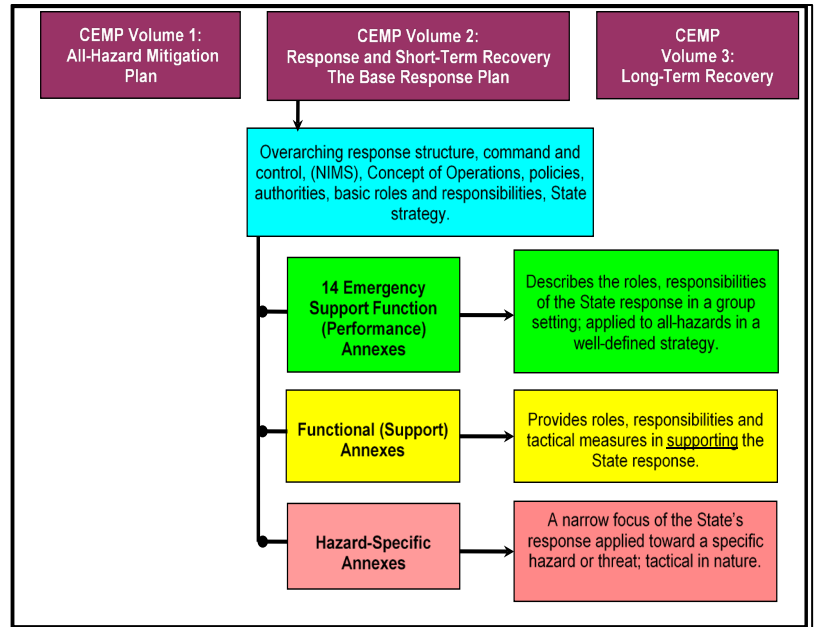


Figure 1: Structure of the State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan

This Appendix will not provide guidance for the sheltering of aggressive animals that may pose a threat to humans or other animals.

4. Situation

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) developed an estimate of the number of animals and types of animals that can be expected in a community based on national ownership percentages. The AVMA formula can be found at: <https://www.avma.org/KB/Resources/Statistics/Pages/US-pet-ownership-calculator.aspx>.

Animal Type	2024 Percentage of household ownership in the U.S.
Dogs	45.5
Cats	32.1
Birds	1.6
Horses	0.5

From the 2024 U.S. Pet Ownership and Demographic Sourcebook

According to The World Population review 49.7% of households in New York State own a pet, and the National average for pet ownership is 66%.

Providing care for pets and service animals is a human health and safety issue, as people may refuse to evacuate if they are unable to evacuate with their pets. Residents who evacuate without their pets are more likely to return for their pets before conditions are safe to do so.

The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) developed trainings and materials to assist pet owners with preparing for disasters. They determined through surveys that 46% of pet owners have disaster plans in place, and nearly half of those who have evacuated have left at least one pet behind.

Pets and service animals that are left behind during a disaster, or animals that become lost, strayed, injured, and/or killed due to the disaster may become a public health hazard.

Local governments are responsible for coordinating and managing all local-level preparedness, response, and recovery activities and services, and will utilize all available local resources to accomplish this mission. Pursuant to Section 25 of New York State Executive Law Article 2-B, which may include county to county requests for assistance to obtain available resources.

Some counties, such as Albany, Broome, Lewis, and Oneida may organize local assets for animal emergency response using the County Animal Response Team (CART) model program. This program is supported by the State Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and DAM. An addition to the New York Codes, Rules, and Regulations (NYCRR) allows credentialed CART volunteers to be covered under State workers compensation and indemnification through DAM. In order to receive coverage, county emergency management officials must adopt and implement DAM's Standard Operating Guideline for CARTs. In addition, a State-level steering committee exists to

facilitate CART program policy and implementation; this private-public partnership is known as the Empire State Animal Response Team (ESART). DAM is the lead agency for this committee but has no regulatory or ability to deploy CARTs during a disaster.

5. Planning Assumptions

- The sheltering, protection, evacuation, and transportation of animals are primarily the responsibility of the animal owner.
- Any emergency requiring the evacuation and sheltering of humans may also require evacuation and sheltering of household pets. Persons arriving at temporary shelters may arrive with service animals, and/or domestic or companion animals considered as household pets.
- DAM will not deploy NYS field veterinarians to assist at shelters because these animals will likely need clinical diagnoses and treatments, and the practice of small animal medicine is outside the scope of the duties of NYS field veterinarians. Veterinarians that routinely practice small animal medicine should be used under these circumstances.
- Service animals are permitted in all ARC shelters. The ARC also has accommodations for household pets at shelters.
- The identification, activation, and operation of local animal sheltering in response to an emergency or disaster is primarily the responsibility of local officials.
- Any pre-designated local animal sheltering may be destroyed or rendered inoperable by the disaster, necessitating the identification of alternate shelter sites.
- It is the general responsibility of county government to establish decontamination protocols for companion animals prior to emergency sheltering.
- During an emergency, unanticipated or spontaneous emergency animal shelters may open. Spontaneous animal shelters may not have adequate resources to sustain operations and may need to be supplemented with county or State resources.
- The capabilities and capacity of counties to manage local animal sheltering varies and will impact the amount of assistance available through mutual aid agreements between counties and memorandums of understanding with non-governmental organizations (NGO). Availability of these resources will likely impact the extent of assistance requested of and provided by the State.
- Delays may occur in obtaining properly trained personnel to staff shelters. Just in time training, which is training held for new volunteers upon arrival, should be offered to new volunteers by the person running the shelter or their designee.
- Depending on the severity and duration of the event, local shelter sites may need additional supplies and assistance from local, county, NGO, and State resources.
- The magnitude of a disaster may lead to long-term animal sheltering needs. Some animals may not be reclaimed by owners once the disaster is over and some animals may become stray.
- National Veterinary Stockpile (NVS) may be able to provide the veterinary countermeasures, animal vaccines, antivirals, or therapeutic products, supplies, equipment.

- Assessment, identification, and separation of aggressive animals from the general population may become necessary in an emergency. Experienced handlers and/or behavior specialist may be required.
- Law enforcement patrols may be required at the TEAS sites to ensure the safety and security of staff, volunteers, the general public, pets, supplies, and equipment.

6. Concept of Operations

- The occurrence of a disaster or emergency warrants the need to provide temporary emergency animal sheltering at the local level. Local governments will establish the TEAS to provide for the anticipated needs of individuals with household pets and service animals during the disaster or emergency.
- Where possible, counties may utilize available regional resources through county-to-county mutual aid or through the establishment of formal memorandums of understanding with NGOs and other resources.
- State support may be coordinated when a county exhausts available local resources in response to the event.
- Absent an activation of the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC), the county emergency manager requesting assistance may notify the appropriate State OEM Regional Office or DAM, who will verify and relay such request to the New York State Watch Center (SWC). The SWC will notify the State OEM Duty Officer of such request. The State OEM Duty Officer will consult with the DAM to determine if the request can be accommodated.
- During a declared State Disaster Emergency or an activation of the State EOC, requests to support the TEAS will be received by the State EOC Operations Chief and assigned to ESF #11 for consideration.
- ESF #11 will assess the status of any TEAS being operated and population data of such shelters.
- The conditions necessitating the implementation of ESF #11 will likely necessitate the implementation and coordination with ESF #6. Sheltering of human populations, including people with AFNs, is addressed in ESF #6 and in the Mass Care Annex. ESF #11 will coordinate with ESF #6 in the identification of facilities, population census, transport options, and the tracking and reunification processes of pets with owners in human shelters.
- Under Section 28 Paragraph 1 of New York State Executive Law Article 2-B, the Governor may exercise the authority to declare a State Disaster Emergency. Upon the declaration of a State Disaster Emergency, the Governor may direct any and all State agencies to provide assistance under the coordination of the Disaster Preparedness Commission (DPC).
- State assistance will be supplemental to local efforts, which may include animal shelter supplies, veterinary support, medical support, environmental support, animal care, and sheltering.
- ESF #11 will be the lead in coordinating with Federal ESF #11 (Agriculture and Natural Resources) as it pertains to all animal-related issues.

7. Legal Authorities and Policies

The authority and policies to develop this Appendix and implement specific response actions to effectively respond to animals in disaster can be found in a variety of New York State laws, regulations, and federal authorities, including:

State

- NYS Executive Law Article 2-B
- NYS Agriculture and Markets Law Article 7, Article 26-B
- NYS Environmental Conservation Law Title 5
- 1 New York Codes Rules & Regulations (NYCRR) Part 69

Federal Authorities

- The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5196b) as amended by the Pet Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006.
- National Response Framework, as amended.
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) # 5 – Management of Domestic Incidents; February 2003

8. Appendix Maintenance, Distribution, and Revision Process

The State OEM Planning Section has the responsibility for the development, review, and maintenance of all multi-agency response plans under the State CEMP. As required under New York State Executive Law Article 2-B, each plan shall undergo an annual review and update and be posted online (if applicable) no later than March 31st of each year.

During the annual review by the Planning Section for its material, this Appendix is examined for both content and format. For updates that do not impact operational mechanisms or processes, the appropriate edits are initiated within the Planning Section and do not warrant external involvement. Plan updates will also be conducted based upon experiences and lessons learned from exercises or real-world events, or through administrative changes in government. Planning Section updates and/or edits affecting operational capabilities, responsibilities, or otherwise impacting operations will engage stakeholders in a variety of ways, such as verbally, by document review, meetings, webinars, or any combination thereof. Final drafts will be socialized to all appropriate agencies/personnel upon completion.

Section II: Preparedness

1. Risk Reduction

To some extent, risk reduction measures are taken on an ongoing, routine basis. While more risk reduction activities will be implemented in anticipation of an imminent disaster, recent events throughout the world have resulted in additional preparedness measures in a variety of ways.

2. Awareness and Surveillance

Lessons learned from Hurricane Sandy and other emergencies have demonstrated that planning for animals is planning for people. Some people will not evacuate in the face of a hazard out of concern for the needs of their companion animals. The Ready campaign provides awareness and preparedness materials for the public and can be found at www.ready.gov/pets.

ESART promotes proactive public education to enhance preparedness for animals. These efforts include an emphasis on individual responsibility and community preparedness and planning initiatives. ESART provides preparedness education and information through the NY-Alerts website <https://alert.ny.gov/empire-state-animal-response-team>.

A worksheet for Pet Preparedness Tips from the ASPCA is available at <https://www.aspcapro.org/sites/default/files/2024-05/general-preparedness-tips-w.-hurricane-wildfire-sidebars--english.pdf>

3. Planning and Training

Local plans for temporary emergency animal sheltering support the first level of response across the state. "CART Planning Efforts" can be found in Attachment 2.

State plans are designed to supplement sheltering capabilities at the local level. State planning methodology includes the development of an ESF #11 Annex and a ESF #6 Annex to the State CEMP. This Appendix accompanies both of these documents.

The TEAS Appendix was developed by representatives from the DAM, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), State OEM, State Department of Health (DOH), ARC, ASPCA, Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE), Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA), and the State Education Department (SED). Some of the agencies represented in the planning work group are members of both ESF #6 and ESF #11. The involvement of both ESF #6 and ESF #11 ensures that efforts to shelter humans and animals will be coordinated with each other with the goal of sheltering animals as close to their owners as reasonably possible.

As lead agency for the ESF #11 and this Appendix, DAM has developed an Emergency Response Guide to activate resources in support of requests for State assistance.

Member agencies have identified resources available to support State assistance for the TEAS.

The ESART promotes and institutes a variety of training available to State and local government as well as animal welfare and response organizations. This training includes:

- CART orientation for counties seeking to develop a CART. Online CART orientation can also be used as a basis for “just in time” training for spontaneous volunteers.
- Regional CART conferences for local CART members and interested volunteers.
- Specialized workshops focused on aspects of Technical Animal Rescue and sheltering are offered once a year. ESART will also support training efforts of individual CARTs.

4. Shelter Locations

DAM works with other entities to identify facilities that may be accessed for use as TEAS facilities. This is done through an MOU at the county level. Depending on seasonal demands, the NYS Fairgrounds may be available. If a disaster expands beyond capacity for the NYS Fairgrounds, a request will be made through the State EOC.

5. Equipment Caches and County Animal Response Teams (CARTs)

The ESART trailer is housed at the Guilderland stockpile and possesses a cache of goods and equipment to support a TEAS for up to 100 companion animals. Through a mission request received through New York Responds, the trailer can be deployed to the disaster area or the identified shelter area 24/7. A request for a driver/truck needs to be included in the trailer request.

See Attachment 1 for ESART Trailer Contents.

Section III: Response

1. Overview

In identifying the State's response actions, it is important to note that during an emergency requiring the sheltering of animals, local regulatory agencies will retain their responsibility and authorities. The role of the State is to provide support to a locally generated response. To provide support effectively, the State response must be proactive in communicating with local officials to identify and fill capability shortfalls, and to be prepared to fully utilize and coordinate State and federal assets.

Key considerations and tasks of the TEAS include the proximity of the TEAS site to the affected population and general population shelters, animal intake and registration, identification and tracking, medical and behavioral assessment and surveillance, infection control and sanitation, housing and containment, the provision of food, water, and essential medical treatment, site safety and security, reunification and disposition, and demobilization.

The agencies listed in this Appendix also serve as members of ESF #11. Each Member Agency is responsible for developing and maintaining agency-specific plans which specify how they will carry out their requisite tasks and duties required to meet requests for available resources identified under this Appendix. Each agency has been asked to provide a list of resources and services that they can provide when the TEAS coordination and support is requested.

2. Alert, Notification, and Activation

Activation of the TEAS Appendix will be as follows:

Without State EOC Activation

- Absent an activation of the State EOC, the provisions of this Appendix may be utilized upon the State OEM's receipt of a request for State assistance from any county emergency management office, or upon DAM receiving a request for assistance.
- DAM may request assistance from other State agencies and NGOs to support local response activities, including the identification of potential sites that could be used as a TEAS.

With State EOC Activation

- An event occurs that requires activation of the State EOC.
- Depending on the severity of the event, an EOC activation level is declared, which may warrant the activation of any or all ESFs, including ESF #11.
- All requests for animal sheltering will be made to State OEM, through the State EOC, by the requesting county's emergency management office or DAM.
- DAM may request assistance from other State agencies to support local response activities, including the identification of potential sites that could be used as temporary animal shelters. Additional resources may be contacted and

requested if it is determined that the needs are greater than the State resources that are available.

- Respond to approved requests for state assistance to activate the TEAS.
- Coordinate resources to meet requests.
- Monitor NYR throughout the event to determine short-term and long-term needs and actions.
- Plan and prepare for potential requests.
- Attend ESF #6 meetings and strategy sessions, to ensure coordination between human and animal sheltering activities.
- Prepare for and facilitate any demobilization support.
- ARC will maintain and share an ongoing inventory of all known temporary emergency animal shelters via NY Responds (NYR) and National Shelter System (NSS) as follows: County, municipality, and street address (with zip code) where the shelter is located (possible GIS/GPS), Shelter point of contact (POC) with phone numbers(s), Sponsoring/Coordinating Organization or Jurisdiction, and number of animals staying at the shelter.
- If Federal assets are deployed in support of the National Response Framework (NRF), ESF #11 will coordinate with the USDA, the lead agency for Federal ESF #11.

3. Response Organization/Direction and Control

The State of New York endorses the use of one response organizational structure that will include all responding agencies: local, state, and federal. State agencies will be organized under the framework of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Incident Command System (ICS), as required by Executive Order 26.1 of 2011, and the NIMS, as required by HSPD-5. ICS will be incorporated at the local and Federal levels as well. The overarching structure of State command and control will be organized as stated in Volume 2 of the State CEMP, *Response and Short-Term Recovery*.

4. Response Agency Roles/Responsibilities

This section reviews existing roles, responsibilities, and capabilities of State agencies, functional branches, and groups, as well as provides an overview of the federal response.

Local Government

Local government will be actively involved in the response and should be utilized to the fullest extent possible. Each county, and many local governments, have a CEMP which provides the framework for the jurisdiction's response to emergencies and disasters. It is anticipated that most counties, if not all, will have established some sort of annex or appendix for pet evacuation, transportation, and sheltering. Each locally developed plan will differ in its implementation, its pre-determined response capabilities, and its animal sheltering capacity. Therefore, it is prudent for the State to conduct timely situational assessment to identify any capability gaps in the response at the local level.

State Government

Emergency Support Function (ESF) and Member Agency Roles

The ESF #11 Coordinating Agency will lead the response to requests for emergency animal sheltering and technical assistance support to the State EOC Operations Section Chief. DAM is the Coordinating Agency for ESF #11.

The agencies listed below have a mission related to the establishment, support, and maintenance of the TEAS Appendix. If additional needs are identified, ESF #11 may request assistance from additional agencies and organizations through the State EOC.

Coordinating Agency

Department of Agriculture and Markets (DAM)

The DAM encompasses several divisions and regional offices. Divisions are responsible for carrying out specific public and animal health functions. These include Food Safety (FS), Milk Control and Dairy Services (MC&DS), Animal Industry (AI), the Food Laboratory (FL), and Soil and Water Conservation (S&W). These divisions are responsible for services, such as:

- Investigating and diagnosing animal health problems and hazards.
- Monitoring and identifying food safety and inspection issues.
- Informing and educating the food industry and the public about food safety issues.
- The promulgation of laws and regulations that protect human and animal health and safety.
- Ensuring a safe and wholesome food supply for consumers.
- Leading the ESART program.
- Coordinates with NGOs such as the ASPCA, to help manage/identify shelters with cooperating CART and County OEMs.

Member Agencies

Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

State OEM will serve as the primary conduit and coordinating entity for the State's operational response and will be responsible for coordination both laterally with other State agencies and vertically with Federal and local partners.

Department of Health (DOH)

DOH provides coordination and facilitation of services of the department centers and offices. This includes county, district, and regional health partners, the Centers for Environmental Health (CEH), Wadsworth Center, Center for Community Health (CCH), Office of Medicaid Management (OMM), Office of Health Systems Management (OHSM), and Office of Managed Care (OMC). These centers and offices ensure the delivery of services in accordance with the following key public health functions:

- Monitoring and identifying community health problems.
- Investigating and diagnosing health problems and hazards in a community.
- Informing and educating the public about health issues.
- Mobilizing community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
- Assuring the provision of, and linking citizens to, personal health services.
- Assuring a competent public health and personal health workforce.
- Evaluating personal and population-based health services.
- Developing policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.
- Promulgating laws and regulations that protect health and safety.
- Facilitating research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.

Empire State Animal Response Team (ESART)

ESART is a State-level organization created to develop plans, policies, standards, and support for the successful development, maintenance, and implementation of CARTs. ESART members represent agencies and organizations which may, under the direction of the DAM, provide resources before, during, and after disasters or emergencies.

American Red Cross (ARC)

Part of the mission of the American Red Cross is to “prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies.” Sheltering provides comfort to people affected by disaster. Community members with pets should feel welcome seeking shelter with the ARC and feel safe for themselves and their household pets.

The ARC disaster operations will work with local and state organizations to identify a lead agency that specializes in animal welfare and who secures and manages the necessary trained workforce to support pet services at each shelter.

- The ARC will accommodate household pets at its shelters whenever feasible. Household pets will not be allowed in the dormitory, food preparation/serving/eating areas, Disaster Health Service areas, designated child recreation areas, or other areas of the shelter where their presence would present health hazards or disrupt service delivery.
- When co-located pet sheltering is not possible because of space limitations, availability of a capable partner agency, or facility rules, disaster relief operations must work in partnership with local emergency management and the community to determine a reasonable solution. The disaster relief operations director can recommend cohabited household pet sheltering within the dormitory.
- All household pets located at a shelter must not pose a threat to the safety of clients or the workforce.
- During an emergency evacuation when other solutions are not available and animals and their owners would be in immediate danger if remaining outside the shelter, the DRO Director may authorize temporary co-habitation of pets and humans inside the dormitory.
- All ARC shelters will have an animal free space reserved for clients whose health and well-being would be affected by proximity to household pets.

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)

The ASPCA is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization headquartered in New York City, with additional offices throughout the United States. ASPCA activities are divided into NYC Regional Programs, National Programs, and Communications. Under NYC Regional Programs, the ASPCA provides legal and forensic assistance in animal cruelty cases. The ASPCA also works with law enforcement to provide medical and behavioral care to victims, animal sheltering, animal placement, mobile spay/neuter, and veterinary care at their ASPCA Animal Hospital in Manhattan.

The Disaster Readiness Department is situated under ASPCA National Programs. This department provides support and guidance in animal emergency and disaster management to federal, state, county, and local government agencies, NGOs, associations, and the public.

During an emergency, the ASPCA may provide assistance in conducting needs assessments, provide operational or technical support and guidance, provide public information approved by the JIC and PIO, and assist in securing and coordinating resources from outside support agencies and organizations, as needed.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Extension Disaster Education Network (CCE EDEN)

CCE EDEN connects the research knowledge of Cornell University to individuals, communities, and families in New York to enhance their economic well-being and quality of life. CCE's educational system enables people to improve their lives and communities through partnerships that put experience and knowledge to work. As the State's land-grant university, Cornell has the special privilege and responsibility to address pressing state and national needs. Faculty and academic staff affiliated with the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, College of Human Ecology, and College of Veterinary Medicine work collaboratively with professional educators who serve local communities in each of the 57 counties and five boroughs of New York City to address these needs. CCE offers programs to urban, suburban, and rural audiences in five broad areas: Agricultural and food systems; children, youth and families; community and economic vitality; environment and natural resources; and nutrition, health, and safety. CCE will assist in the implementation of this Appendix by helping to identify potential temporary emergency animal shelter sites, volunteers, and resources for the shelters, and by disseminating information to the general public.

New York State Education Department (SED)

The SED may be able to assist in the identification of specialized educational programs, such as the Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) programs in that state with animal-related programs that could serve as local resources.

Federal Government

Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

The DHS/FEMA may implement the NRF, which provides a mechanism for organizing, coordinating, and mobilizing federal resources to augment State and local resources.

Under the NRF, the DHS/FEMA may employ a variety of ESFs for coordinating response and recovery activities. Support for animal response issues will be contained in several ESFs as well as in the base plan. Federal ESF #11 is anticipated to be the lead ESF for animal response.

The USDA is the Federal Coordinating Agency for ESF #11.

Section IV: Recovery

1. Overview

The need for the TEAS will likely conclude concurrently with the demobilization of shelters. However, due to human losses, property losses, the intake of stray animals, and other unforeseen conditions, some animals housed in temporary emergency animal shelters may require long-term sheltering or other arrangements.

2. Demobilization of the State Response

As the disaster or emergency subsides and the State EOC demobilizes, several actions or activities may be realized, including:

- Local emergency management officials and authorized sponsors of local animal shelter facilities may continue to maintain shelters for a period of time determined by such officials.
- Upon demobilization of local animal shelter facilities, animals that are not claimed or identified as owned will be turned over to local municipal shelters, duly incorporated humane societies, or Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) and their disposition will be handled in accordance with New York State law.
- The ESF #11 Coordinating Agency and EOC leadership will determine whether ESF #11 presence in the State EOC shall be discontinued.
- Once it is determined that a continuing presence of ESF #11 in the State EOC may not be needed, demobilization actions may commence.
- Responding agencies and organizations shall provide the Coordinating Agency, or designee, with a concise report of their accomplishments and unmet needs during the activation.
- Such reports shall be combined to create an overall animal sheltering report to be submitted by ESF #11 Coordinating Agency via NYR. This report will be made available to the OSC and Planning Section.
- Ongoing animal sheltering activities will be reported to ESF #11 until the completion of all animal sheltering missions.

3. The Recovery Process

Whenever the Governor finds that a disaster has occurred or may be imminent and local capabilities may be exceeded, they may declare a State Disaster Emergency. If the Governor finds that the event is of such severity and magnitude that the State will be overwhelmed, they can request federal assistance.

The State CEMP outlines the disaster relief funding and programs that would be applicable for an incident of this type. Included are provisions for Public Assistance (PA) and Individual Assistance (IA), which would aid in supporting government response operations and provide some recovery assistance for individuals and their families, businesses, and sectors identified in the preceding pages. The implementation of the recovery process is identified in Volume 2 of the State CEMP – *Response and Short-Term Recovery*.

Additional recovery programs can be found in Volume-3 of the State CEMP, *Long-Term Recovery*.

Attachments

Attachment 1: *ESART Trailer Contents*

Attachment 2: *County/CART Planning Efforts*

Attachment 3: *Glossary and List of Acronyms*

Attachment 1

ESART Trailer Contents

ESART Trailer Contents (Confirmed 1/2025)

*DAM would require assistance to transport the trailer by another agency if needed from the Guilderland stockpile.

Quantity on Hand	Item Name	Item Description	Package Quantity
1	Wheel Barrel	Black	1
2	Hand Truck	Green	1
2	Hand Cart	Folding, Black	1
2	Folding Table	Fold up, 6'	1
8	Folding Chair	Steel	1
2	Anti-Fatigue Mat	Black, 2' X 3' Rubber Mat	1
1	Drink Cooler/Dispenser	5-gallon, Orange	1
5	Box Fan	20", White	1
5	Surge Protector	6 Outlet	1
1	Extension Cord	100'	1
1	Extension Cord	25'	1
1	Extension Cord	50'	1
4	Halogen Light	500-Watt, Free-standing, Dual, Yellow	1
1	Lead Light		1
1	Light Bulb		2 Pack
1	Generator	15hp, 8000 watts	1
1	Generator Oil	4 quarts	1
1	Grease Gun		1
1	Grease Canister	Tube	1
1	WD 40	Lubricant	1 Can
1	Fuel Can	5 Gallon, Red	1
1	Fire Extinguisher	Kiddie	1
1	Toolbox	Black, Yellow	1
1	Cordless Drill		1
1	Screwdriver set	10 Piece, assorted	10 Pack
1	Socket Set	40 Piece, assorted	40 Piece
1	Hacksaw		1
1	Hacksaw Blade		1
1	Staple Gun		1
1 Box	Staples		1 Box
1	Plier Set	5-piece set	5 Piece
1	Adjustable Wrench Set	5-piece set	5 Piece
1	Adjustable Wrench Set	2-piece set	2 Piece
1	Hammer		1
1	Tape Measure	30'	1
1	Tape Measure	100'	1

1	Fence Pliers		1
1	Bolt Cutter		1
1	Sprayer	Hand Pump, 3 gal.	1
1	Hose	50'	1
1	Hose	100'	1
2	Hose Nozzle	Brass	1
5	Water Bucket	Blue	1
1	Pitchfork		1
1	Shovel		1
4	Broom		1
4	Bucket	5-gallon, Orange	1
2 Box	Trash Bags	Extra Large	54 Count
1	Dustpan	Black	1
1	Wet-dry Vac	14 Gallons	1
2	Tarp	19' X 29.5', Blue	1
3	Tarp	15.1' X 23.3', Blue	1
2	Tarp	38.5' X 52.5', Blue	1
3	Duct Tape	55 Yards, Silver	1 Roll
2	Nylon Rope	1/4" X 100', White	1
1	Nylon Rope	1/2" x 50', White	1
1	Nylon Rope	3/8 X 100', White	1
1 Box	Bungee Cords	Assorted sizes	36 Pack
1	Bungee Cords	24"	4 Pack
4	Flashlight	D cell Battery	1
4	Flashlight	6 Volt battery	1
4	Traffic Cone	Orange	1
1	Caution Tape	1000', Yellow	1 Roll
5	Safety Vest	Reflective	1
2	Safety Goggles	Plastic	1
4 Pack	Gloves	Cotton, Black	6 Pairs/ Pack
5	Hard Hat	White, Plastic	1
5	2-Way Radio		2 Pack
1	Weather Radio		1
1	Digital Thermometer		1
2 Pack	Neck Bands/Collars	20", assorted colors	500 Count/ Pack
2 Pack	Animal Control Leads	Nylon, Blue/White	12 Count/ Pack
1	Gauntlet Gloves	Leather	1
2	Exercise Pen	Foldable Corral, 3'	1
1 Pack	Zip Ties	14"	500
1 Roll	Barrier Fencing	Orange 100'	1
6	Horse Halter	Nylon, Red, Large	1

6	Lead Rope	10', Cotton, 3-Red, 3-Black	1
2	Horse Halter	Small, Nylon, Black	1
4	Slip Halter	Nylon, Red	1
2	Feed Bucket	Red	1
5	Feed Pan	Black	1

Attachment 2

**County/CART Planning Efforts
Confirmed 1/2025**

CART	Area of Response	Equipment Location	Trailer/ TLAER Equipment	Capacity (Pet Kennels)	Animal/Pet Supplies (Leashes, bowls, halters, leads, etc.)	Web Link
Albany, Schenectady, Rensselaer	3 Counties	Albany County Sheriff's Office	Limited – coordinate with Mohawk Hudson Humane Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 small 	Limited – coordination with Mohawk Hudson Humane Society	N/A
Broome (BCART)	1 County	MFA training Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12ft trailer • Becker Sling • Generator • Light Towers • Air Compressor • 50ft Corral System 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 Small • 20 Medium • 20 Mixed Size 	Utilize multiple MOUs to obtain food and water	https://www.gobroomecounty.com/e911/bcart
Clinton	1 County	Clinton County Office of Emergency Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2x trailers shared with Clinton and Essex 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38 assorted sizes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter Pans (50) • Bowls • Leashes (50) • Halters • Tables/Chairs • Cleaning Materials 	clintoncountygov.com/emergency
Delaware*	1 County	Delaware County Public Safety Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • X4 80' corral • 7Kw generator • Safety fence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 65 medium crates • 20 large crates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 250 bowls • 20 halters • 20 leads • Extension cords • Fans • Water hose 	

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buckets • Safety Fence • Weather Radio • Hand Tools • Taros 	
Dutchess	1 County	Dutchess County Emergency Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trailer with no sheltering capabilities 	None	None	https://www.facebook.com/DutchessCART
Erie* (ECCART)	1 County	Erie County Emergency Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	107 assorted sizes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 play yards • 88 stainless steel food/water bowls (assorted sizes) • 38 leashes • 19 litter boxes • Additional Supplies 	ECMRC@erie.gov
Essex	1 County	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 trailers shared with Clinton and Franklin 	N/A	N/A	N/A
Franklin	1 County	County Emergency Services Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 fully stocked trailers shared with Clinton and Essex 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assorted sizes MOU with pet shelters throughout the county 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dishes 	http://www.frcoemergencyservices.org/

Monroe	1 County	Lollypop Farm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trailer • Generator 	25-30 assorted sizes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halters • Buckets • Lead Ropes • Leashes • Paper Dishes • Litter Pans • Towels • Blankets • Cleaning Supplies • Road Cones • Safety Fence • Gloves • Tyvek Suits • Pop up Tent 	www.Lollypop.org
Nassau	1 County	Nassau County OEM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3x Trailers 	200 assorted sizes		None
Oneida* (OCART)	1 County	Oneida County Public Safety building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 Assorted sizes 10 Cat Carriers 	Misc. Animal Care Accessories	https://ocgov.net/node/6525
Ontario	1 County	Ontario County Safety Training Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trailer • TLAER Sling and ropes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited amount 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leashes • Ropes 	ontariocountyny.gov
Otsego	1 County	Otsego County EOC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAWS Trailer (with generator) • Aluminum Stock Trailer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 Small • 18 Large • 25 Carriers (Cats) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leashes • Halters • Pig boards 	https://www.otsegocounty.com/departments/emergency_services/index.php

Schoharie	1 County	Schoharie County Office of Emergency Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • x2 Trailers • Generator • Tents 	Assorted sizes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leashes • Bowls 	
St. Lawrence*	1 County	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOU for sheltering in place • Potential emergency shelter trailer 	None	None	https://stlawco.org/Departments/EmergencyServices/em/CART
Tioga (TCART)	1 County	Tioga County Public Safety Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Stall horse trailer • Shelter Trailer • Generator 	60 small	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bowls • Tarps 	http://tiogacountyny.gov
Ulster (UCART)	1 County	County EMS building on Golden Hill, Kingston	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter Trailer • Generator 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trailer has 16 small and large build in crates. • 30 Foldable crates of assorted sizes 16 small Foldable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter box • Bowls • Leashes • Linens 	https://www.ulstercorps.org/collaborations/ucart-ulster-community-animal-response-team/
Washington & Saratoga	2 Counties	Saratoga Municipal Complex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trailer 			
Wyoming, Orleans & Genesee	2 Counties	Genesee County Office of Emergency Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trailer 			

Attachment 3

Glossary and List of Acronyms

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) - The ASPCA was founded in New York City in 1866 to prevent cruelty to animals in the United States. The ASPCA has been headquartered in New York City since its founding and maintains a strong local presence, but with the gradual addition of programs and staff that extend its anti-cruelty mission across the country, the ASPCA is now recognized as a national animal welfare organization. ASPCA activities are divided into NYC Regional Programs, National Programs, and Communications and Support. The ASPCA is a privately funded 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

Companion Animal – Companion animals include those animals that may be found as domesticated pets. **It is assumed that this plan will not provide for the sheltering of aggressive animals that may pose a threat to humans or other animals.**

County Animal Response Teams (CARTS) – These teams include individuals that have received training in the Incident Command System, National Incident Management System, and HAZMAT Awareness, and have agreed to volunteer their time to assist animals impacted by disasters. Some team members may have additional specialized training in various animal disaster response related functions. These teams are only activated at the request of the County Emergency Management.

Empire State Animal Response Team (ESART) - Is a state-level organization created to develop plans, policies, standards, and support for the successful development, maintenance, and implementation of CARTs. ESART members represent agencies and organizations which may, under the direction of the DAM, provide resources before, during, and after disasters or emergencies.

ESART Members – Are those agencies, organizations, businesses, and individuals participating/represented on the ESART Steering Committee.

ESART Program Partners – Are those agencies, organizations, businesses, and individuals that have been invited by the ESART Steering Committee to work on ESART program projects.

Host Shelters – Facilities recognized and currently operating as an animal shelter that house animals displaced or evacuated from affected animal shelters.

Household Pet – As defined by FEMA Disaster Assistance Policy 9523.19, a household pet is a domesticated animal, such as a dog, cat, bird, rabbit, rodent, or turtle that is traditionally kept in the home for pleasure rather than for commercial purposes, can travel in commercial carriers, and be housed in temporary facilities. Household pets do not include reptiles (except turtles), amphibians, fish, insects/arachnids, farm animals (including horses), and animals kept for racing purposes.

Pet-friendly Evacuation Sheltering – This type of sheltering allows humans and their companion animals to co-locate in the same room, facility, or campus. This allows for the owners of companion animals to provide for the care and needs of their animals which reduces the need for volunteers and other resources. Pet-friendly evacuation sheltering may include the use of commercial facilities, such as pet-friendly motels and hotels.

Service Animal – As defined by FEMA, is any guide dog, signal dog, or other animal individually trained to provide assistance to an individual with a disability including, but not limited to, guiding individuals with impaired vision, alerting individuals with impaired hearing to intruders or sounds, providing minimal protection or rescue work, pulling a wheelchair, or fetching dropped items. According to the ADA, a service animal is any animal individually trained to provide assistance to an individual with a disability. If they meet this definition, animals are considered service animals regardless of whether they have been licensed or certified by a State or local government.

Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) – “SPCA” like “Humane Society” and “Anti-Cruelty Society,” is a generic term. SPCA's and humane societies generally have no affiliation with each other or necessarily any similarity of policies and procedures. “SPCA” and “humane society” are often interchangeable terms, but “SPCA” sometimes, but not always, implies a law enforcement capability.

Temporary Emergency Animal Shelters (TEAS) – This type of shelter provides care and housing to animals that cannot be housed in the same sheltering facilities as their owners. This may also include companion animals recovered or evacuated from impacted areas for their own safety and whose owners may not have been identified. The length of time the shelter is needed will depend on the size and scope of the disaster. Shelters may be managed or staffed by local municipalities, by approved NGOs or by CARTS.