

ANNEX Y TO FAIRFIELD COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATION PLAN

AGRICULTURE RESPONSE TEAM (CART)

I. MISSION

The mission of this annex is to protect wild and domesticated animal resources and public health in case of a large-scale emergency such as agro terrorism, hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding, drought, fire, explosion, building collapse, transportation accidents, chemical spills, or nuclear power plant accidents. To provide public guidance enabling the majority of animal owners to develop and carry out their own individual emergency response plan under most circumstances. Develop back-up support service to assist animal owners in protecting and caring for their animals during and after a disaster. Further, to assure veterinary medical care to protect the animal industry and public health. To develop back-up support services to CULPH and DHEC in the event of a local agriculture emergency.

II. ORGANIZATION

- A. The Fairfield County Emergency Management Department will serve as the lead agency under whose authority the emergency response will take place. The Fairfield County Emergency Director may designate a coordinator for all agencies and activities necessary to support operations under this plan.
- B. The Director of Emergency Management may place in effect established plans and procedures and direct both the emergency and recovery aspects of the incident. He/she may deviate from these procedures when, in his or her judgment, immediate and direct action is necessary to protect public safety.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

- A. Fairfield County Emergency Management is responsible for communicating information with Fairfield County CART Coordinator.
- B. Clemson University Cooperative Extension Services will maintain liaison with Fairfield County Emergency Services, Animal Control Agencies, and other agencies or volunteers involved in animal care and rescue.
- C. Fairfield CART will coordinate, as necessary, locations for evacuation and placement of agricultural animals with SC Department of Agriculture.
- D. Department of Health & Environmental Control (Disease Control) will provide epidemiologist, public health veterinarian support, and public health guidelines, as necessary.

- E. Department of Health & Environmental Control (Waste Management) will provide sanitation and disposal support, as necessary.
- F. The Department of Health and Environmental Control (Environmental Health) will provide vector control, as necessary.
- G. The Department of Natural Resources will provide native wildlife support and limited assistance, if available, to coordinate zoo/exotic situations.
- H. The Department of Agriculture serves as a response point for equine related disaster assistance and assist with identification and location of housing and other related services for livestock.
- I. Each agency/organization will operate under their mandated federal, state, or organizational regulations and will maintain complete administrative and financial control over their activities. Coordinate with the establishment of one or more animal hospitals with local veterinarians for emergency medical needs.
- J. Each agency/organization will maintain current resource list.
- K. Letters of Agreement between volunteer as well as non-volunteer agencies shall be the responsibility of the agencies listed under this ESF.

IV. ACTIONS

A. Preparedness/Mitigation

1. Develop plans and maintain procedures to implement this plan, including organization of personnel, and outline of duties and responsibilities.
2. Determine which agencies will assist in search and rescue efforts of injured, stray, or abandoned animals.
3. Maintain liaison with Fairfield County Emergency Services and animal support organizations.
4. Develop a sheltering plan in the event of a mass evacuation.
5. Develop procedures for identification of lost or abandoned animals and establish a foster/adoption procedure in the event that their owners cannot reclaim lost animals within a reasonable period of time.
6. Develop and publicize animal preparedness information, including listings of known pet friendly facilities (hotels/motels), livestock housing and transportation availability.

7. Develop, maintain and update lists of available animal shelters, including veterinarians, private kennels, and private individuals capable and willing to house animals during emergency situations.
8. Develop and maintain lists of medical and non-medical volunteers and agencies that will provide animal care assistance. This list will include information on the type of service and/or resources being offered, number of volunteers, resources available, and contact persons with telephone numbers.
9. Coordinate with the establishment of one or more animal hospitals with local veterinarians for emergency medical needs.
10. Develop timelines for training, and exercises.
11. Maintain descriptions of the services that the agency is capable of providing as well as a description of the agencies current capabilities.
12. Support and plan for mitigation measures. Support requests and directives resulting from the Governor and/or FEMA concerning mitigation or re-development activities. Be prepared to document matters that may be needed for EOC briefings or situation reports.

B. Response

1. Active annex upon request of the Emergency Management Director and assign a representative to the Fairfield County Emergency Operations Center.
2. Coordinate the rescue of animals found in distress.
3. Coordinate the transportation, as necessary, of animals to an animal care facility.
4. Coordinate animal evacuation issues with Fairfield County Animal Control.
5. Conduct animal emergency damage assessments and based on that information, determine potential workloads, establish priorities, and determine manpower and equipment requirements for each mission assignment.
6. Coordinate request to State ESF-17 for additional support and services through the EOC.
7. Ensure suspected rabies cases are reported to the Health Department promptly.
8. Coordinate public information.

9. Organize lost/found data to coordinate reuniting of owners and animals.

C. Recovery

1. Continue to coordinate the rescue, transportation, pick up of stray animals, emergency medical needs, and placement of affected animals.
2. Continue to coordinate with Fairfield County Animal Control to develop long-range recovery operations and establish priority of tasks to be accomplished.
3. Collect and maintain data on animal services rendered, including mortality figures, and compile data for a final report.
4. Coordinate return to owner or final disposition of unclaimed animals.
5. Coordinate animal sanitation and disposal issues, as the situation may require.
6. Provide situation report information to SCEMD; prepare after-action reports, and other reports as required.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Preparedness and Mitigation

1. Pet and livestock owners have the responsibility to develop individual emergency plans for their pets and livestock. This means the owner is responsible for medical and maintenance care arrangements for their animals and ultimately responsible for all costs associated with their animals. Owners of exotic animals are urged to maintain full preparation and response capabilities, as specialty resources for these animals may not be available through regular support channels.
2. Fairfield County Animal Control will:
 - a. Provide a representation to the CART Advisory Committee. As the Primary Agency, assist with the following planning issues:
 - b. Prepare and distribute animal emergency preparedness information.
 - c. Develop and maintain resource lists (veterinarians, shelters, stables, pet-friendly motels).
 - d. Coordinate the development of specialized teams to perform such duties as First Response, Animal-Agriculture Damage Assessment, and Large Animal Rescue (LART).
 - e. Develop and maintain SOPs for emergencies.
 - f. Identify members available to staff the EOC.

3. Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service will:
 - a. Assist in the development of the CART plan.
 - b. Identify Agents available to staff the EOC.
 - c. Assist with resource information, including assimilation of available county livestock data.

4. SC Association of Veterinarians Liaison Officer will:
 - a. Provide veterinary expertise for the CART Advisory Committee. Assist in developing resource lists, including animal emergency supplies.
 - b. Inform area veterinarians about CART plan.

5. DHEC Representative will:
 - a. Provide expertise for the CART Advisory Committee.
 - b. Identify individuals available to staff the EOC.

6. Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Representative(s) will:
 - a. Provide expertise for the CART Advisory Committee.
 - b. Identify individuals available to staff the EOC.

B. Response

1. The Fairfield County Animal Control will:
 - a. Coordinate with Animal Control the tasking of Animal Control Officers.
 - b. Maintain a representative in the EOC throughout emergency as needed.
 - c. Deploy and/or utilize specialized teams as needed, e.g. First Response, Animal-Ag Damage Assessment, and Large Animal Rescue.
 - d. Coordinate with Clemson University Livestock and Poultry-Health and DHEC on quarantine and animal carcass disposal issues.
 - e. Relay assistance requests to the appropriate county, city and state agencies.
 - f. Provide for collection and compilation of data on response efforts and costs.
 - g. Assist with dissemination of public information.
 - h. Coordinate the tasking of Animal Control Officers.
 - i. Assist with rescue and transportation of animals
 - j. Coordinate with appropriate agencies on quarantine and animal carcass disposal issues.

2. Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service will:
 - a. Supply personnel for damage assessment teams and other specialized teams as requested.

- b. Assist with livestock relocation.
- c. Assist CULPH by providing manpower to monitor recovery efforts.
- d. Collect data on damage assessment and ongoing needs of livestock and horses.

3. SC Association of Veterinarians Liaison Officer will:

- a. Coordinate with veterinary officials at local and state levels to provide medical supplies and requests for treatment of animals.
- b. Assist with specialized teams (e.g. LART) as needed.
- c. Assist with implementation of animal shelters.
- d. Assist DHEC in the implementation of public health guidelines.
- e. Provide veterinary medical care for animals.
- f. Provide status reports to CULPH.

4. DHEC Representative will:

- a. Provide support for public health guidelines
- b. Provide support for environmental quality.
- c. Provide water inspection and protection support.
- d. Provide sanitation and waste disposal support
- e. Provide vector control support

5. Department of Natural Resources Representative will:

- a. Provide native wildlife support within agency policy and statutory guidelines.
- b. Provide personnel and equipment to animal depopulation operations.
- c. Provide assistance to animal rescue efforts.

C. Recovery

1. The Fairfield County Animal Control will:

- a. Coordinate the phase-down of animal emergency services through the various support agencies and within the framework of the EOC.
- b. Assist with coordination of compiled data on services rendered and presentation of after-action reports.
- c. Coordinate with appropriate agencies the return and final disposition of animals, as well as the disposal of dead animals
- d. Assist with animal relocation and care.
- e. Assist with phasing down shelters as the need diminishes.

2. Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service will:
 - a. Assist appropriate agencies with recovery efforts.
 - b. Provide data for after-action reports.
3. SC Association of Veterinarians Liaison Officer will:
 - a. Assist appropriate agencies with recovery efforts.
 - b. Assist in determining veterinary resources and costs incurred in the event.
4. DHEC Representative will:
 - a. Assist agencies in phase-down efforts.
 - b. Provide data for after-action reports.
5. Department of Natural Resources Representative will:
 - a. Assist appropriate agencies in phase-down efforts.
 - b. Provide data for after-action reports.

VI. OPERATIONAL STATE INTERFACE

ESF-17 is supported by and will coordinate through Fairfield County Emergency Management Director with State Animal/Agriculture Emergency Response to obtain State assistance as required. Medical and rescue efforts are supported by a variety of national agencies/organizations such as the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), the American Humane Association (AHA), the Humane Society of America (HSUS), and the American Horse Protection Association (AHPA).

VII. ADMINISTRATION

Maintenance

This annex will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary by the Fairfield County CART, and the agencies listed as primary and secondary agencies under this annex.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

A. Administration

1. Reports will be submitted as required by the Fairfield County EOP.
2. Administrative supplies will be furnished by Fairfield County EMD.
3. Security will be provided by Fairfield County Sheriff's Department.

B. Logistics

1. The Emergency Welfare Service will operate feeding facilities at the EOC if required.
2. Each individual will provide for lodging.
3. Emergency Medical Service will be provided for EOC workers and official visitors.
4. Requests for supplies and services while at EOC will be documented on a county purchase order voucher.
5. Personnel will provide personal use items.
6. Transportation to and from the EOC is the responsibility of the individual. Emergency requests for transportation will be coordinated by the EOC.

Approval:

Signature(s) from Primary Agency

Date of approval

IX. Attachments:

- Attachment 1 - Kennels
- Attachment 2 - Veterinarians
- Attachment 3 - Pet Friendly Motels
- Attachment 4 - Pet Food and Supply
- Attachment 5 - Feed and Seed / Equine Equipment
- Attachment 6 – Stables / Pasture Boarding
- Attachment 7 - Animal Disaster Planning Fact Sheet

List specific names, addresses, telephone numbers for each attachment.

**ATTACHMENT 1 TO ANNEX Y, FAIRFIELD COUNTY AGRICULTURE RESPONSE TEAM
– KENNELS**

| | |
|---|--|
| Kennel Care Report 925 Spears Creek Court Elgin, S.C. 29204 803-736-4484 | Dr. Knight 970 Columbia Road Winnsboro, S.C. 29180 803-635-5959 |
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**ATTACHMENT 2 TO ANNEX Y, FAIRFIELD COUNTY AGRICULTURE RESPONSE TEAM -
VETERINARIANS**

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| Dr. Knight 970 Columbia Road Winnsboro, S.C. 29180 803-635-5959 | |
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**ATTACHMENT 3 TO ANNEX Y, FAIRFIELD COUNTY AGRICULTURE RESPONSE TEAM
PET FRIENDLY MOTELS**

| MOTEL | CITY |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Ramada 6173 State Highway 34 East | Ridgeway, S.C. 29130 803-337-7575 |
| Fairfield Motel 56 US Highway 321 Bypass | Winnsboro, S.C. 29180 803-635-3458 |
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**ATTACHMENT 4 TO ANNEX Y, FAIRFIELD COUNTY AGRICULTURE RESPONSE TEAM –
PET & ANIMAL FOOD AND SUPPLIES**

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| Northside Feed & Seed 1714 US Highway 321 Bypass N Winnsboro, S.C. 29180 803-635-6641 | |
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**ATTACHMENT 5 TO ANNEX Y, FAIRFIELD COUNTY AGRICULTURE RESPONSE TEAM –
FEED AND SEED / EQUINE EQUIPMENT**

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| Northside Feed & Seed 1714 US Highway 321 Bypass N Winnsboro, S.C. 29180 803-635-6641 | |
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**ATTACHMENT 6 TO ANNEX Y, FAIRFIELD COUNTY AGRICULTURE RESPONSE TEAM –
STABLES AND PASTURE BOARDING**

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|--|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Tom Morin 1456 Candlewood Circle Blythewood, S.C. 29106 | Cedar Creek Area | 1 Barn 10 Acres of Pasture |
| Charles Caudill 8712 Winnsboro Road Blythewood, S.C. 29016 | Greenbrier Area | 1 Barn 20 Acres of Pasture |
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ATTACHMENT 7 TO ANNEX Y, FAIRFIELD COUNTY AGRICULTURE RESPONSE TEAM- ANIMAL DISASTER PLANNING FACT SHEET

Domestic Pets

- If you evacuate your home, **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR PETS BEHIND**. Pets most likely cannot survive on their own, and if by chance they do, you may not be able to find them when you return.
- For public health reasons, many emergency shelters cannot accept pets. Find out which motels and hotels in your area allow pets. Include your local animal shelter's number in your list of emergency numbers -- -- they will be able to provide information concerning pets during a disaster.
- Make sure identification tags are up to date and securely fastened to your pet's collar. If possible, attach the address and/or phone number of your evacuation site. Make sure you have a current photo of your pet for identification purposes.
- Make sure you have a secure pet carrier, leash or harness for your pet so that if the animal panics, it cannot escape.
- Take pet food, bottle water, medications, veterinary records, cat litter/pan, can opener food dishes, first aid kit and other supplies with you in case they are not available later.
- Make sure you have a copy of your pet's medical records. If you are unable to return to your home right away, you may need to board your pet. Most boarding kennels, animal shelters, and veterinarians require that your pet's vaccinations are current.
- If it is impossible to take your pet with you to temporary shelter, contact friends, family, veterinarians or boarding kennels to arrange for care. Make sure medical and feeding information, food, medicine and other supplies accompany your pet to its foster home.

Livestock

- Evacuate livestock if needed. The evacuation sites should have or be able to readily obtain food, water, veterinary care, handling equipment and facilities.
- If evacuation is not possible, a decision must be made whether to move large animals to available shelter or turn them outside. This decision should be determined based on the type of disaster and the soundness and location of the shelter.
- All animals should have some form of identification that will help facilitate their return.

Wildlife

- Wild animals often seek higher ground which, during floods, eventually become

submerged (i.e., island) and the animals become stranded. If the island is large enough to provide suitable shelter, you can leave food appropriate to the species. Animals have a flight response and will flee from anyone approaching too closely. If the animal threatens to rush into the water, back away from the island.

- Wildlife often seek refuge from flood water on upper levels of a home and many remain even after the water recedes. If you meet a rat or snake face to face, be careful but don't panic. Open a window or other escape route and the animal will probably leave on its own. Never attempt to capture a wild animal unless you have the training. Protective clothing, restraint equipment and caging necessary to perform the job.
- Beware of an increased number of snakes and other predators who will try to feed on the carcasses of reptiles, amphibians and small mammals that have been drowned or crushed in their burrows and under rocks.
- Often, during natural disasters, mosquitoes and dead animal carcasses may present disease problems. Outbreaks of anthrax, encephalitis and other diseases may occur. Contact your local emergency management office for assistance.

Primary Agency: Fairfield County Emergency Management

Support Agencies: Clemson University Cooperative Extension Services - CUCES
County Sheriff's Department
County Fire Department / EMS
County Environmental Enforcement
County Animal Shelter
Regional Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue
Department of Health and Environmental Control - DHEC
SC Association of Veterinarians Liaison Officer
SC Department of Natural Resources - DNR
SC Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency – FSA
Local Veterinarians
Livestock Associations
American Red Cross – Shelter Groups