RESCOURCES FOR EMERGENCY ANIMAL CARE

Supplies and Equipment

The following is a list of basic supplies and equipment that may be useful – to be procured, delivered, maintained, stored, used, and replenished – for emergency animal care. Essentials (□) are listed first, followed by items that are more rarely necessary (○). Specific disasters may require yet more specialized equipment.

Animal Handling Equipment
- □ Collars
- □ Leashes
- □ Control pole
- □ Muzzles
- □ Gloves (different types for different species)
- ○ Traps
- ○ Nets, snares, etc.

Pet Housing and Supplies
- □ Crates/cages – bigger is better
- □ Cleaning supplies
- □ Grooming supplies
- □ Bowls
- □ Litter boxes and litter
- □ Towels/blankets
- ○ Comfort toys or chew items

Building Materials
- □ Basic tools (hammer, cordless drill, screw drivers, crowbar, bolt cutters), rope, duct tape, WD-40, etc.
- ○ Tarps (for roofing and shade)
- ○ Fencing (for pens and perimeter): chain link, portable corrals, construction barricade, hog panels, woven wire, electirc fence

Veterinary Supplies
- □ Thermometer
- □ Vet wrap/bandages
- □ Gauze
- □ Betadine
- □ Antibiotic cream
- □ Saline for flushing wounds
- ○ Stethoscope
- ○ Clippers
- ○ Syringes/needles (assorted sizes, supplied by a veterinarian)
- ○ Tranquilizers (oral and injectable supplied by a veterinarian)

Human First Aid
- □ Latex exam gloves
- □ Thermometer
- □ Waterless hand sanitizer
- □ Antibiotic cream
- □ Eye wash
- o Stethoscope
- o Aspirin/Benadryl
- o Bug repellent/sunscreen

Safety Equipment
- □ Fire extinguishers
- □ Flashlights w/ extra batteries
- □ Gloves (all types)
- o Safety vests
- o Weather radio
- o Lanterns, Chem-lites, etc.

Office Equipment/Supplies
- □ Tables, chairs
- □ Paper, files, file boxes
- □ Clipboards, pens, tablets, stapler, tape dispenser, indelible markers, scissors, paperclips
- □ Digital camera and printer,if power is available, or Polaroid camera, film and batteries
- □ Local area map and phone book
- o Computers (if power is available)

Cleaning Equipment/Supplies
- □ Disinfectant suitable for kennel and animal use (e.g., Virkon)
- □ Paper towels
- □ Mops and mop buckets
- □ Scrubbers
- □ Hoses with spray nozzles
- □ Trash cans and bags
- □ Brooms
- □ Spray bottles, etc.
- o Power washer

Additional Equipment/Supplies
- □ Extension cords
- □ Fans/heaters
- □ Veterinary exam table (any solid surface that can be disinfected)
- □ Signs or poster board to make signs
- □ Locks
- □ Water hoses
- o Dumpster

Utilities
- □ Water (water buffalos, pumps, water tanks) sufficient for at least 3-days of drinking and cleaning
- □ Telephone (phones, ideally several with a single number to distribute to owners, and answering machine)
- o Power (generators and fuel, batteries)
- o Emergency lighting (outside klieg lights, light stands, security lights)
- o Trash disposal service

Transportation
- □ Evacuation of people/animals from the shelter
- □ Traffic control into/at shelter (parking areas for press, volunteer, staff and public)
- o Supply runners (cars, golf carts, trucks)
- o Forklifts (may be needed for supply management)
- o Animal control trucks, horse trailers, stock trailers, 18 wheelers, rental trucks
- o Rescue teams (4 wheel drive vehicles, etc.)

Communications – Alternates/supplements to phone service
- □ Cell phones (handheld or bag)
- □ 800 MHz (public service band radio, ex: police, fire, animal control)
- o Amateur radio
- o Satellite phones
- o Family Service Radio (FRS)

Each community should keep an inventory of non-perishable animal-care supplies and equipment on hand (e.g., in an ACO storage room, trailer, or POD) The amount should be sufficient for respone to a minor incident or for the first phase of a more severe one. Assuming basic office and custodial supplies are always on hand, a minimal inventory might include:

Supplies or Equipment	Estimated Cost
Leashes (box of 25)	20
Muzzles various sizes (set of 7)	50
Pet carrier/crate (10 medium @ $75.00)	750
Pet carrier/crate (4 large @ $90.00)	360
Bowls for food and water (40)	160
Paper towels (6)	10
Plastic trash bags (40)	10
Newspapers (for litter)	0
Disinfectant – household bleach (6 gallons)	10
Flea spray (1) or flea preventatives	15
Plastic sheeting	10
Disposable poop bags (or newspaper bags)	10
Aerosol deodorant spray (1)	5
Flash Lights and batteries (3)	15
First Aid Kit (2)	30

N95 surgical respirator masks (box of 10)	20
Disposable Nitrile gloves (box of 100)	10
Total	$1,485

See also the [Inventory for North Carolina Companion Animal Mobile Equipment Trailer](#) (CAMET).

Pre-prepared forms and standard operating procedures (SOPs)
- Forms and SOPs on-line with the Operating Manual, standardized insofar as possible to increase interoperability among shelters

Funding
- Establish a reserve of funds
- Set up accounts to accept donated funds
    - Credit card
    - Cash and checking account – in case there is no electrical or phone service

Personnel
Note: In the Incident Command System, the number of response personnel varies with the size and severity of the incident. Command increases and decreases the responsbility of each supervisor to achieve a manageable span of control (normally, 1 supervisor for 4-6 persons). Hence, in a small incident, each staff member serves several roles and in a larger incident, fewer.

Roles
- Leadership team for DART
- Command staff for shelter (based on incident-specific ICS), e.g.:
    - Shelter Manager
    - Safety Officer
    - Liaison
    - Operations
    - Animal Health
    - Logistics
    - Planning
    - Public Information Officer
- General staff (functional responsibility for primary segments of management)
    - Registration / Intake
    - Dogs
    - Cats
    - Isolation

Local Sources of Recruits
- Core staff (pre-designated and/or paid)
- Local volunteers, e.g. associated with a local pound or shelter
- Members of the [Community Emergency Response Teams](#) (CERT)
- [Serve Rhode Island](#)
- Students
- Retirees

Care of Individual Volunteers
- Scheduling (web-based screening)
- Travel
- Reception for volunteers
- Housing
- Local transportation
- Local deployment and assignment
- Orientation
- Overlap
- Coordination
- Food, water, safety and emergency medical care

Organizational Resources

Rhode Island Organizations for Animals
Animal Rescue League of Southern RI (ARLSRI)
Potter League for Animals
Providence Animal Rescue League (PARL)
RI Federation of Riding Clubs (RIFRC)
RI Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RISPCA)
RI Veterinary Medical Association (RIVMA)
RI Veterinary Technician Association (RIVTA)
Stand Up for Animals (SUFA)
Serve Rhode Island
Wildlife Rehabilitators Association of RI

Animal Response Teams in the Region
Central Massachusetts Animal Response Team (CMDART)
Connecticut State Animal Response Team (CTSART)
Empire State Animal Response Team (ESART)
New Hampshire Disaster Animal Response Team (NH-DART)
State of Massachusetts Animal Response Team (SMART)

National Organizations for Animals
American Kennel Club (AKC)
Funds to support shelter functions
American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)
Screen down-stream shelters
Funds for shipping
Animal Poison Control (ASPCA APCC)
American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)
Disaster Preparedness Resouces for Veterinarians
State Veterinary Medical Associations Constituent Allied
Organizations
Veterinary Medical Assistance Teams (VMAT)
Evaluation of needs/provide advice
Veterinary manpower assistance
Emergency veterinary function
Can be rapidly redeployed to upstream emergency needs

[Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges](#) (AAVMC)
[Federal Emergency Management Authority](#) (FEMA)
    [Shelter Operations: Pet-Friendly Shelters](#)
    [Caring for Pets](#)
[Humane Society of the United States](#)
    Evaluation of needs
    Funds to support shelter functions
    Organization of out-of-state veterinary volunteers
[International Fund for Animal Welfare](#) (IFAW)
    Rapid deployment of evaluators
    Funds to support shelter functions
    Skilled long-deployment staff to support core shelter operations
[Pet Poison Control Helpline](#)
[National Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters](#) (NVOAD)
    Skilled and non-skilled labor
[Noah's Wish](#) [Pet Finders](#)
    Lost pet matching service
[Pet Harbor](#)
    Lost pet matching service
[State Animal Response Teams](#) (SART)
[United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps](#) (USPHS)
    Skilled managers
    Provide medical, veterinary, technical skills
    Provide reliable extended deployment to individual
    shelters/situations
[United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service](#) (USDA/APHIS)
    [Animal Health](#)
    [Animal Welfare](#)
    [Emergency Preparedness and Response](#)

Incident Command System (ICS)

The Incident Command System is a standardized management tool for meeting the demands of small or large emergency or non-emergency situations. It evolved following a series of catastrophic fires in California's urban interface in the 1970s when it was determined that response problems were far more likely to result from inadequate management than from any other single reason. The ICS represents "best practices" and has become the standard for emergency management in the U.S.

The ICS is a key element of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). As stated in NIMS

> The ICS is a management system designed to enable effective and efficient domestic incident management by integrating a combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to enable effective and efficient domestic incident management. A basic premise of ICS is that it is widely applicable. It is used to organize both near-term and long-term field-level operations for a broad spectrum of emergencies, from small to complex incidents, both natural and manmade. ICS is used by all levels of government – federal, state, local, and tribal –as well as by many private-sector and nongovernmental

organizations. ICS is also applicable across disciplines. It is normally structured to facilitate activities in five major functional areas: command, operations, planning, logistics, and finance and administration.

The Incident Command System (ICS) is critical to the success of emergency operations such as this. All managerial and volunteer personnel involved in an emergency animal shelter should be familiar with ICS.

An excellent starting point for learning about ICS is the ICS Resource Center (FEMA). It includes links to the following topics:

1. ICS Review Document
   This 23-page document provides a concise description of the ICS including definitions, functions, organizational structure, position descriptions, etc. It is highly recommended.
2. ICS Training Courses
   The Emergency Management Institute (EMI) offers more than 40 independent study courses for people who have emergency management responsibilities and the general public. For most courses, you will need to download and print the materials. Others are interactive and can be taken directly over the internet on the NETC Virtual Campus. Courses are free-of-charge.

   Relevant classroom courses available from the FEMA Emergency Management Institute (EMI) include:
   - ICS-100: Introduction to ICS (EMI Course Number: IS100)
   - ICS-200: ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents (EMI Course Number: IS200)
   - ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents (EMI Course Number: G300)
   - ICS-400: Advanced ICS Command and General Staff -- Complex Incidents (EMI Course Number: G400)

   Independent study courses are linked to the FEMA Independent Study Program Course List
3. ICS Position Checklists on roles and responsibilities of ICS positions that can be downloaded as MSWord or PDF documents.
4. ICS Forms and Job Aids. See also ICS Forms, fillable in MSWord.

Other National Guidance Documents And Regulations
   National Incident Management System (DHS, FEMA).
   Animal Health Resources, Typed Resource Definitions (FEMA).
   Animal Welfare Code (7 USC Chapter 54), "Transportation, Sale, and Handling of Certain Animals" (USDA, APHIS).
   Interim Guidelines for Animal Health and Control of Disease Transmission in Pet Shelters and Animals in Public Evacuation Centers (CDC).
   Compendium of Measures to Prevent Disease Associated with Animals in Public Settings (NASPHV).
   Animals in Disasters (NIH DIMRC).