

CORRESPONDENCE WITH VOLUNTEERS AND DONORS

E-mail Alert for Volunteers (In-state)

State emergency-response authorities now anticipate the need to ready for a potential emergency. In particular, a storm that is now south of New England may track in our direction. If weather forecasts indicate that RI landfall is very likely, the State Veterinarian will activate RIDART to staff one or two of the State animal care centers (Boss Arena in Kingston and/or Thayer Arena in Warwick). For now, though, we only ask you, please:

1. Prepare yourself and your dependants, including your animals to safely weather a storm. Gather necessities and go-kits to last for at least three days.
2. Respond to this email by letting us know if you anticipate that you will be able to respond to a DART activation.

So let us know: Are you and your dependents prepared for you to be away from home to help staff one of the State animal care centers (assuming activation will be for 3 days, beginning one day before the storm's predicted landfall)?

Sincerely,

DART Volunteer Coordinator

E-mail Response for Volunteer Requests (In-state)

Thank you for offering to volunteer at Rhode Island Emergency Animal Care Centers. We currently are recruiting volunteers to work in shifts at SITE, ADDRESS. Shifts are planned from:

___ am to ___ pm
___ pm to ___ pm

Please e-mail a response indicating which shifts you would be available. We will, in turn, reply with an assignment.

When you intend to volunteer, please bring a photo id (driver's license preferred). Due to security at the facility, we ask that volunteers be patient while facility staff complete screening and registration. Please note that this facility does not permit people who are under 18 years of age to enter the facility or to provide volunteer services. Also, please note that we need all types of assistance at the facility. The Volunteer Coordinator or facility staff may request that volunteers perform jobs at the site that may not involve direct care of the animals. When you arrive at the facility, you will be assigned a volunteer job to perform on a particular day.

On DATE, the Emergency Animal Care Center at ADDRESS will be open only from TIME. We will re-open the following day at TIME. Please park legally as police will be ticketing and towing.

Sincerely,

DART Volunteer Coordinator

E-mail Response for Volunteer Requests (Out-of-state)

Thank you for offering to volunteer at a RI Animal Emergency Care Center. We have received a number of offers for volunteer services from within the disaster area. We are interested in scheduling the following from outside the disaster area:

- veterinarians,
- veterinary technicians,
- animal handlers,
- animal control officers,
- administrative staff.

We are particularly eager to attract experienced volunteers who can make their own arrangements for lodging and can stay for an extended period of time. For those far, out-of-state volunteers who do not have lodging and transportation, we will keep your contact information as a potential volunteer for our facility at a future date. Please note that there are other animal shelters in Rhode Island and other affected states that may need volunteer assistance. We recommend that you contact them directly for further information about availability or need.

Sincerely,

DART Volunteer Coordinator

E-mail Response for Voluntary Donations of Food, Pet Supplies, etc.

Thank you for offering to donate money, food and supplies for Rhode Island Emergency Animal care. We accept monetary donations at the facility or you can mail a check to:

Disaster Animal Response Team

ADDRESS

Please make your checks payable to: **DART**. We have received of donations and currently have a sufficient supply of needed materials to address pet care at this facility. We will notify the public in the near future if this facility requires additional donations. Please note that there are other animal shelters in Louisiana and other affected states that may need emergency donations and supplies. We urge you to contact them directly for further information about their need or for general information on making donations.

Sincerely,

DART Volunteer Coordinator

E-mail Response for Foster Requests

Thank you for offering to provide foster care for Rhode Island Emergency Animal Care Centers. We are requesting that persons interested in fostering pets register at www.petfinders.com. We are also asking owners and potential families to coordinate through this website in order to make arrangements for the pets.

Sincerely,

DART Volunteer Coordinator