

Northampton County Emergency Operations Plan

3.11 ESF #11 - Agriculture and Natural Resources

Primary Department

Northampton County Agricultural Extension Service

Support Department

Northampton County Emergency Management

Other Support Agencies

None

Purpose

The purpose of this ESF is to guide the actions of ESF #11 (Agriculture and Natural Resources) during an emergency/disaster response. The ESF #11 (Agriculture and Natural Resources) supports the National Response Plan ESF #11 (Agriculture and Natural Resources) and is in place to address (1) the control and eradication of an outbreak of contagious or economically devastating animal disease, highly infective exotic plant disease, or economically devastating plant pest infestation; (2) assurance of food safety and food security; (3) protection of natural and cultural resources and historic properties prior to, during, and/or after an emergency/disaster.

Scope

ESF #11 (Agriculture and Natural Resources) addresses numerous issues related to agricultural health and safety and the potential economic effects resulting from a disaster in Northampton County.

Potential operations include the following:

- Assessing crop damage following a disaster
- Investigating disease outbreaks in farm animals and other commercial livestock
- Ensuring the safety and security of livestock's food supplies

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ESF #11 (Agriculture and Natural Resources) Primary Department	Roles/Tasks
Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assemble and train crop damage assessment crews. • Conduct annual exercise to test response capabilities. • Negotiate and sign MAAs with partners.
Response – Initial Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report to the EOC or make initial contact with the EOC via telephone within one hour of activation, or as directed. • Provide information and recommendations to the County EOC and state agencies for incidents involving an outbreak of highly contagious/zoonotic animal disease, highly infective exotic plant disease, or economically devastating plant pest infestation that may require quarantine actions or that may impact intrastate/interstate commerce. • Assign personnel to assist in delivering animal healthcare to injured or abandoned animals. • Engage in surveillance of food safety/security-related illness, injury, and other consumer complaints.
Response – Continuing Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the situation and provide updates to the County EOC, as needed.
Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assemble teams to assess crop damage in the aftermath of the disaster. • Conduct damage assessments, according to the policies of VCE and the State; forward results to the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service and the County EOC. • Assist farmers in applying for post-disaster assistance.
ESF #11 (Agriculture and Natural Resources) Support Department	Roles/Tasks
Northampton County Emergency Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support crop assessment. • Receive damage assessment reports. • Augment assessment staff with County staff, as needed.