

Northampton County Emergency Operations Plan

3.18 ESF #18 - Animal Care and Control

Primary Department

Northampton County Sheriff's Office

Support Departments

Northampton County Extension Service
Northampton County Emergency Management

Other Support Agencies

Local Veterinarians
Virginia State Police

Purpose

ESF #18 (Animal Care and Control) provides rapid response to disasters affecting the health, safety, and welfare of animals. Animal care and control activities in emergency preparedness, response, and recovery include but are not limited to care of companion animals, livestock and wildlife care, facility usage, displaced pet/livestock assistance, animal owner reunification, and carcass disposal.

Scope

ESF #18 (Animal Care and Control) will provide overall management, coordination, and prioritization of countywide animal control services and assets to support pet and livestock needs in the event of a major emergency or disaster in Northampton County.

Potential operations include the following:

- Triaging and treating sick and injured animals
- Estimating the number of sick and injured animals
- Collecting and disposing of deceased animals
- Reuniting lost animals with their owners

Northampton County Emergency Operations Plan

| ESF #18 (Animal Care and Control) Primary Department | Roles/Tasks |
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| <p>Preparedness</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop plans for the safety of livestock, poultry, and companion animals prior, during, and after a natural or man-made incident. • Coordinate planning with ESF #18 (Animal Care and Control) support agencies. • Coordinate the delivery of preparedness programs that address small pet issues. • Identify local "pet-friendly" resources that can provide services, solutions, and options for residents and visitors with pets. • Implement systems that distribute information to the public. |
| <p>Response – Initial Actions</p> | <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. • Coordinate with support agencies to offer help in identifying shelter options for animals whose owners will not evacuate without their pets. • Identify, mobilize, and deploy assessment representatives to the disaster area(s) to determine the specific health and safety needs and priorities. |
| <p>Response – Continuing Actions</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with public information operations to communicate alert status, volunteer mobilization, and casualty and damage information. • Coordinate with governmental authorities in matters of animal rescue, evacuation, equipment use, provision of transportation and security of their animal care, and control of facilities and supplies. • Obtain advice and assistance from the state's Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Animal and Food Industry, Office of the State Veterinarian. • Identify all personnel and resource requirements to perform assigned missions. • Track the activities, data, and statistics from activated agencies before, during, and after the disaster. |
| <p>Recovery</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide estimates of the numbers of injuries and deaths of animals to the VEOC. • Provide continued care of sheltered animals, provide an extended network for the adoption of unclaimed animals, and assist in the relocation of sick and injured animals to permanent facilities until there is a return to normal operations. • Arrange for the removal and disposal of dead animals. • Coordinate the re-population of animals or reestablishment of plants into the recovered area. |

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| ESF #18 (Animal Care and Control) Support Departments | Roles/Tasks |
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| <p>Northampton County Extension Service</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify local "pet-friendly" resources that can provide services, solutions, and options for residents and visitors with pets. • Assist state agencies in the management of livestock and poultry disease outbreaks. • Identify all personnel and resource requirements to perform assigned missions. • Provide estimates of the numbers of injuries and deaths of animals. • Assist in providing an extended network for the adoption of unclaimed livestock, and assist in the relocation of sick and injured livestock to permanent facilities until there is a return to normal operations. • Educate affected livestock owners during and after a disaster as to their proper care, feeding and housing. |
| <p>Northampton County Emergency Management</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate planning with ESF #18 (Animal Care and Control) support agencies. • Coordinate with governmental authorities in matters of animal rescue, evacuation, equipment use, provision of transportation and security of their animal care, and control of facilities and supplies. • Provide estimates of the numbers of injuries and deaths of animals. |
| ESF #18 (Animal Care and Control) Other Support Agencies | Roles/Tasks |
| <p>Local Veterinarians</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate planning with ESF #18 (Animal Care and Control) support agencies. • Coordinate with governmental authorities in matters of animal rescue, evacuation, equipment use, provision of transportation and security of their animal care, and control of facilities and supplies. • Provide continued care of sheltered animals, provide an extended network for the adoption of unclaimed animals, and assist in the relocation of sick and injured animals to permanent facilities until there is a return to normal operations. |
| <p>Virginia State Police</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate planning with ESF #18 (Animal Care and Control) support agencies. • Coordinate with governmental authorities in matters of animal rescue, evacuation, equipment use, provision of transportation and security of their animal care, and control of facilities and supplies. • Provide estimates of the numbers of injuries and deaths of animals. |