

# Animal Care, Control and Sheltering Support Annex

## Coordinating Agency

Floyd County Animal Control

## Cooperating Agencies

Emergency Management  
Floyd County Sheriff's Office  
Local Veterinarians  
Floyd County Health Department  
Virginia Cooperative Extension Service  
Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS)  
Virginia Department of Emergency Management  
Virginia Veterinary Medical Association  
Virginia Animal Control Association  
Animal Welfare/Rescue Organizations

## Introduction

### Purpose:

The Animal Care and Control Annex coordinates public and private sector resources to identify and meet animal service needs that may arise during an emergency or disaster. This annex provides basic guidance for all participants in animal related emergency management activities. This includes guidance for all departments and agencies providing assistance in response to a local disaster declaration.

The emergency mission of animal care and control is to provide rapid response to emergencies 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, companion animals, livestock and wildlife care, facility usage, displaced pet/livestock assistance, animal owner reunification, and carcass disposal.

### Scope:

This annex is applicable to departments and agencies that are participating and responding with assistance or relief to an animal emergency as coordinated by the Department of Animal Control. The *Virginia State Comprehensive Animal Law* provides clear definitions and care requirements under *Virginia Code 3.1-796.66 Definitions*. Partial listings of these definitions are located in Tab 1 of this annex.

### Assumptions:

1. **The care and control of non-wildlife and non-feral animals (including household pets, livestock and poultry) is primarily the responsibility of the owner of the animal(s).** In times of emergency or disaster, owners may need assistance in the care and control of their animals.
2. A hazard analysis and vulnerability assessment has been completed which identifies the types of threats, the areas that they threaten, and types and numbers of animals most vulnerable in these areas.
3. The Director of Emergency Manager or the County Administrator may issue an emergency proclamation or disaster declaration. The National Incident Management System (NIMS) will be used to establish the organizational structure.
4. Floyd County Emergency Operations Center may be activated to manage the emergency.
5. Any disaster may potentially have adverse effects on the jurisdiction's animal population or the public health and welfare.
6. State or Federal Assistance to deal with animal emergencies may not be available. Local resources must be utilized before requesting outside assistance.

## **Policies:**

Following recent Congressional action on the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act, S. 2548 and H.R. 3858, former President George W. Bush signed the historic legislation into law. The PETS Act requires state and local agencies to include animals in their disaster plans.

All Local governments must develop and maintain an animal emergency response plan (SB 787, Animal Emergency Response Plan, 2007 Session) with the assistance of the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Animal and Food Industry Services has the responsibility of interpreting and enforcing the regulations pertaining to the health, humane care, and humane handling of livestock, poultry, and companion animals in the Commonwealth.

## **Concept of Operations**

### **Organization:**

The Department of Animal Control is designated as the lead agency for animal care and control. Within Animal Control, the Director is designated as the Coordinator for the management of operations, planning, and training for the animal care and control function.

The Department of Animal Control has primary responsibility for:

- Evacuation, transport, recordkeeping, and sheltering of companion animals
- Medical care for companion animals
- Disposal of dead companion animals
- Capture, quarantine, and/or destruction of infectious, contaminated, and/or hazardous animals

Secondary responsibilities include:

- Disposal of other dead animals
- Aid in providing services for agricultural animals (livestock)

The Chief Animal Control Officer and Coordinator of Emergency Management are responsible for developing and implementing the necessary management policies and procedures that will facilitate and ensure a safe, sanitary and effective animal care and control effort. These procedures will be designed to support and expedite emergency response operations, as well as maximize state and federal assistance. Plans and procedures for the Department of Animal Control and supporting agencies define the roles of agencies and support organizations in

preparedness, response and recovery of an animal emergency. These plans and procedures establish the concepts and policies under which all elements of their agency will operate during an animal emergency. They will provide the basis for more detailed appendices and procedures that may be used in a response.

The Chief Animal Control Officer and Coordinator of Emergency Management will coordinate with ESF # 11 and all departments, government entities, and representatives from the private sector who support animal emergency operations. This may involve working with other local jurisdictions that provide mutual aid, state and federal governments, private contractors, local retailers, volunteer organizations, etc. and assuring that all involved have current Memorandums of Agreement with Floyd County in respect to their agreed support.

**Pet Demographics:**

The U.S. Pet Ownership and Demographics Sourcebook<sup>1</sup> provides an average animal per household chart that may be applied to Floyd County for assessment purposes.

<b>Nationwide Pet Ownership</b>	
<b>Type</b>	<b>Percent of Households</b>
Dogs	36.1
Cats	31.6
Birds	4.6

*Table SA1.1*

<b>Average Number of Animals Per Household</b>	
<b>Type</b>	<b>Average Number of Pets Per Pet Owning Household</b>
Dogs	1.6
Cats	2.1
Birds	2.0

*Table SA1.2*

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<sup>1</sup> Center for Information Management, American Veterinary Medical Association, Schaumburg, IL 2002)

## Responsibilities

At this time the county does not have the resources to house any pets during a disaster. Pet owners should plan out a course of action to ensure the well being of their pet should a disaster occur.

- Develop and implement plans, policies, and procedures for overarching animal care and control activities, animal recovery, and household pet sheltering during disasters, including Mutual Aid Agreements;
- Develop procedures for public information and education on animal disaster preparedness;
- Maintain current listings of emergency contacts and resources necessary for response to an animal emergency;
- Oversee all activities (mitigation, planning, response and recovery) in regards to emergency animal care and control;
- Develop logistical support to carry out emergency response and recovery actions;
- Maintain an inventory of supplies on hand;
- Protect vital records, critical systems, and essential operations;
- In conjunction with the VPI Extension Service and VDACS, produce and maintain maps/listings with locations of large livestock operations and other special animal facilities identified to include volume, contact information, etc;
- In conjunction with the VDH and VDACS, produce and maintain plans, policies and procedures regarding Animal Disease Control;
- Train staff and volunteers;
- Conduct or participate in emergency shelter drills and disaster response drills.
- Provide just-in-time training as necessary on task appropriate plans, policies, and procedures;
- Implement Mutual Aid Agreements;
- Document costs to insure federal or state disaster assistance can be sought for reimbursement of disaster related expenditures;
- Large livestock operations will be encouraged to develop emergency procedures and evacuation plans for the animals in the care and custody and provide them to the Emergency Manager and Animal Control Director for comment and review; and
- **Citizens will be encouraged to develop household emergency plans that would include their pets in all aspects of response including evacuation and sheltering.**

## Actions

### **Increased Readiness:**

- Alert personnel (officers and volunteers) to be on call; and
- Monitor situation and prepare public service announcements

### **Mobilization:**

- Alert all personnel;
- Open Support Shelters;
- Activate other resources as needed; and
- Implement evacuation upon command

### **Response:**

- Maintain communication with the EOC, shelters, and related personnel;
- Identify, control and/or destroy animals that pose a threat or hazard to citizens, property, and public safety;
- Maintain records;

- Rescue and provide care for sick/injured animals
- Coordinate with the Health Department in regards to zoonotic and epizootic disease.

### **Recovery:**

- Identify and or dispose of dead animals;
- Reunite animals with owners;
  - Provide lists and locations of shelters and animals to public
  - Transport any unclaimed animals to Floyd County Shelter
  - Follow standard operations for any unclaimed animals
- Report disaster related expenses to EOC;
- Provide documentation of injuries, deaths, and rescue operations to EOC;
- Relieve volunteers and personnel as needed; and
- Deactivate Emergency Shelters per direction of EOC.

### **Evaluation:**

- Assess strengths and areas for improvement and provide practical solutions;
- Evaluate staff and volunteer roles and performance; and
- Revise the plan as necessary.

## **Tab 1 to Animal Care and Control Annex DEFINITIONS**

### **Household Pet**

A domesticated animal, such as a dog, cat, rodent, or fish, that is traditionally recognized as a companion animal and is kept in the home for pleasure rather than commercial purposes. This does not include reptiles. (ASPCA Model Pet Policy Guidance)

### **Feral/Stray Domesticated Animals:**

An animal that is typically known as a household pet that is either not with its owners by accident or otherwise or has reverted back to a wild state.

### **Livestock:**

Domesticated animals that may be kept or raised in pens, houses, pastures, or on farms as part of an agricultural or farming operation, whether for commerce or private use. Such animals may include goats, sheep, beef or dairy cattle, horses, hogs or pigs, donkeys or mules, bees, rabbits or 'exotic' animals (those raised outside their indigenous environs) such as camels, llamas, emus, ostriches, or any animal, including reptiles, kept in an inventory that may be used for food, fiber or pleasure.

### **Poultry:**

The class of domesticated fowl (birds) used for food or for their eggs. These most typically are members of the orders Galliformes (such as chickens and turkeys), and Anseriformes (waterfowl such as ducks and geese).

### **Wildlife:**

All animals, including invertebrates, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, which are indigenous to the area and are *ferae naturae* or wild by nature.

### **Exotic Animals:**

Any animal that is not normally domesticated in the United States and wild by nature, but not considered wildlife, livestock or poultry due to status. This includes, but is not limited to, any of the following orders and families, whether bred in the wild or captivity, and also any of their hybrids with domestic species. Listed examples are not to be construed as an exhaustive list or limit the generality of each group of animals, unless otherwise specified.

1. Non-human primates and prosimians – examples: monkeys, baboons, chimpanzees
2. Felidae (excluding domesticated cats) – examples: lions, tigers, bobcats, lynx, cougars, jaguars
3. Canidae (excluding domesticated dogs) – examples: wolves, coyotes, foxes, jackals
4. Ursidae – examples: all bears
5. Reptilia – examples: snakes, lizards, turtles
6. Crocodylia – examples: alligators, crocodiles, caiman
7. Proboscidae – examples: elephants
8. Hyanenidae – examples: hyenas
9. Artiodatyla (excluding livestock) – examples: hippopotamuses, giraffes, camels
10. Procyonidae – examples: raccoons, coatis
11. Marsupialia – examples: kangaroos, opossums
12. Perissodactylea (excluding livestock) – examples: rhinoceroses, tapirs
13. Edentara – examples: anteaters, sloths, armadillos
14. Viverridae – examples: mongooses, civets, genets

**Tab 2 to Animal Care and Control Support Annex  
RESOURCE LIST**

<b>Resources</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>Staff</b>	Jamie Brook Harvey Waddell Floyd Harman	110 Pound Road Floyd VA 24091 540-745-9365
<b>Vehicles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1999 Ford Explorer</li> <li>2001 Chevy 1500</li> <li>2017 Ford Interceptor suv</li> <li>2018 Ford F-150</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	
<b>Equipment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	
<b>Supplies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	

*Table SA1.1*

**Tab 4 to Animal Care and Control Support Annex  
Pet-Friendly Shelter Sites**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Pet Capacity</b>
None at this time		•	•
		•	•

*Table SA1.2*

## Tab 5 to Animal Care and Control Support Annex Lost Animal Report

Today's Date		Information Received By	
Name		Address	
Temporary Address		Phone Number	
Date Last Seen		Location	
Do You Have A Picture Of The Animal?		Is The Animal Friendly?	
Does The Animal Have A History Of Running Away?			
Type Of Animal		If A Litter, Number In Litter	
Breed	Size (Small/Medium/Large)	Animal's Name	
Male/Female/Fixed	Tail (Short/Long/Curly/Straight)	Distinguishing Marks	
Fur Length/Coat Type	Colors	Ears (Floppy/Erect)	
Is Animal Wearing A Collar?	Does The Animal Have An ID Tag? Info On Tag?		
Rabies License Number?	Indoor/Outdoor Animal	Cat – Declawed?	
Name		Phone	
Address		Are Shots Current?	
Animal On Any Medication?		Frequency	
When Was Medication Last Given?			
Who Else Have You Notified That The Animal Is Missing?			
Comments			
Lost Animal Matched With Animal ID #		Date Owner Contacted	
Date Animal Reclaimed		Released to Owner Print & Sign Name	
Owner's Drivers License #	State	Phone Number	
Owner Located	Matched At Shelter	Deceased	Unknown After 30 Days

**Tab 6 to Animal Care and Control Support Annex  
Contacts and Outside Resources**

<b>Resources</b>			
Animal Care Center	846 Webbs Mill Rd, Floyd, VA 24091	540-745-2004	
Blue Ridge	436 Floyd Hwy. N., Floyd Va 24091	540-745-3800	
Riner Animal Hospital	3513 Riner Road, Riner, Va 24149	540-382-2351	
Copper Hill Animal Clinic	8243 Floyd Hwy. N., Copper Hill, Va 24079	540-929-4009	
Floyd-Roanoke Veterinary Services		540-745-2185	
Carrol Veterinary Clinic	1396 Floyd Pike, Hillsville, Va 24343	276-728-4841	
Town & Country Veterinary Clinic	1605 N. Frankilin St. Christiansburg, Va 24073	540-382-5042	
Christiansburg Veterinary Clinic	250 N. Franklin St. Christiansburg, Va 24073	540-382-3222	
The Animal House	13 Gladesboro Rd. Laurel Fork, Va 24352	276-398-3300	
Riverside Vet Clinic	210 E. Main Street, Radford, Va 24141	540-633-3900	
West End Animal Clinic	829 Second Street, Radford, Va 24141	540-731-1111	
Boyce & Holland	Stuart	276-694-3564	
Healing Springs	Galax	276-236-5103	
Wytheville		276-228-2322	

*Table SA1.3*