

## **ANNEX E (EVACUATION AND SHELTER)**

*The Pet Sheltering Plan below was developed from guidelines of the Humane Society and American Red Cross. Writing the Plan was simple. Getting permission to use the County Fair Grounds was simple. Getting pet shelters to agree to take pets at the onset of an event is difficult. Pet shelters do not like to take in animals that may spread disease. The best solution for a family is having a reciprocal agreement with a friend in a nearby area willing to care for your pets.*

### **APPENDIX 1 (Sheltering Pets) to ANNEX E (Evacuation and Sheltering)**

#### **I. Purpose**

To establish guidance and procedures to facilitate the basic safety and care of domestic pets and farm animals, in Jackson County, during an emergency or disaster while leaving primary responsibility with the owner.

#### **II. Situation and Assumptions**

- A. Natural or technological emergencies and disasters occur which require citizens to evacuate their homes.
- B. Many citizens own domestic pets, such as dogs and cats.
- C. Farmers and other animal owners have a responsibility to deal with potential problems with them prior to, during and following disasters.
- D. Shelters for citizens do not permit pets other than those used for special needs assistance.
- E. Unattended pets may be at risk to themselves and to the general population.
- F. Pet owners and farmers are responsible for any costs incurred as State and Federal disaster programs do not provide funding.
- E. Historically, less than 20% of evacuees utilize public shelters.
- F. Many of evacuees may now bring their pets with them.

#### **III. Concept of Operations**

Jackson County residents are encouraged through public education to pre-arrange reciprocal pet (foster care) agreements with relatives and friends prior to the onset of disaster situations.

For those, who do pre-arrange animal care or when time and circumstances do not allow owners time to move pets and farm animals, it may become necessary (if it can be done with reasonable safety) for a decision to be made to help find shelter and care for

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household and farm animals. These animals may be taken by owners or designated personnel to designated kennels, animal shelters, boarding facilities, veterinary hospitals or other appropriate facilities.

A. Pre-Incident:

1. Jackson County Animal Shelter, Public Health and Emergency Management will maintain a pet sheltering plan.
2. Keys to planning:
  - a. Estimate population of domestic pets within the jurisdiction based on the formula provided (see attached "Estimated Pet Population" worksheet ):

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Estimated Number of Households</b>	<b>Estimated Number of Dogs</b>	<b>Estimated Number of Cats</b>	<b>Estimated Number of Birds</b>
Black River Falls	1128	356	308	64
Alma Center	142	45	39	8
Hixton	138	44	38	8
Melrose	163	52	44	9
Merrillan	183	58	50	10
Taylor	161	51	44	9

- b. Coordinate, develop and maintain, with appropriate government agencies and private organizations, a resource network, with lists and contact information for kennels, boarding facilities, animal shelters, veterinary hospitals, or other resources, which will participate in the sheltering of domestic pets during emergencies and disasters. Identify animal disposal resources. Identify outlets for unclaimed pets.
- c. Establish guidelines and procedures in conjunction with participating groups for the:
  - 1) Emergency medical care
  - 2) Sheltering of farm animals and pets.
- d. Coordinate public education activities relating to animal evacuation with the media and other groups publicizing emergency care for pets. (This could include outreach activities, such as brochures, news articles and public service announcements for veterinary offices, kennels, pet supply businesses, etc. and the general public.) Special consideration should be given to special needs groups.

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### **B. During Incident:**

1. Jackson County Animal Shelter, Public Health, Emergency Management, Local Veterinarians, Animal Hospitals and County Fairgrounds (Agricultural Animal Care).
  - a. Coordinate response and public information activities with adjacent counties and appropriate support organizations to provide resources and mutual aid, if necessary.
  - b. Follow procedures for emergency actions as developed in preparedness activities.
  - c. The Jackson County Animal Shelter Supervisor (or designee) will report to the County EOC to coordinate appropriate animal rescue activities.

### **C. Post Incident:**

1. Jackson County Animal Shelter, Public Health, Emergency Management, Local Veterinarians, Animal Hospitals and County Fairgrounds (Agricultural Animal Care).
  - a. Coordinate transition to normal operations.
  - b. In cooperation with the providers, track the disposition/reunification of the pets.
  - c. Notify participating boarding facilities, appropriate agencies and local media of cessation of emergency activities.
  - d. Review and evaluate, with all participating groups, the effectiveness of procedures during emergency response and recovery.

## **IV. Organization and Responsibilities:**

The Jackson County Animal Shelter, working through local jurisdictions and resources, to develop the network of pet care participants available to respond in emergencies.

### **A. Animal Owners:**

1. Maintain primary responsibility to develop plans to care for their animals.
2. Encouraged to pre-arrange emergency animal care with friends, neighbors (not necessarily near neighbors who may be equally effected by a disaster).

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### B. Jackson County Animal Shelter to:

1. Maintain a list of participating kennels, boarding facilities, animal shelters, veterinarians, veterinary hospitals and other pet resources in the County, provided to Jackson County Emergency Management and updated annually.
2. Designate a representative(s) to coordinate with the respective kennels, boarding facilities, animal shelters, veterinarians, veterinary hospitals and pet disposal resources to the extent possible.
3. Coordinate public information about pet disaster issues.
4. Designate representatives to implement plan. These individuals shall oversee and designate shelter requests and coordinate and track pet placement to the extent possible.
5. Advise Wisconsin Emergency Management of any problems that develop in implementing the plan. Include information on the status of pet evacuation in situation reports that are submitted to the state.

### C. The following agencies/organizations have an advisory or support role:

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM)        | 800-943-0003   |
| 2. | Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association    | 888-254-5202   |
| 3. | Wisconsin Federated Humane Societies        | 414-728-6822<br>800-227-4645 Toll Free<br>303-748-1140 Pager |
| 4. | Dept. of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Pro. | 414-473-3757   |
| 5. | American Red Cross                          | 608-233-9300   |
| 6. | Dept of Health and Family Services          | 608-275-5472   |
| 7. | American Humane Association (AHA)           | 800-227-4645   |
|    | Dick Green                                  | 303-885-2179 or Samantha Bradley                             |

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**The undersigned have reviewed and hereby approve this Sheltering Pets Appendix to the Evacuation and Shelter Annex.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackson County Animal Shelter Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackson County Emergency Management Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**ANNEX E (EVACUATION AND SHELTER)**

**ATTACHMENT 1 (Estimated Pet Population Worksheet)  
to APPENDIX 1 (Sheltering Pets)  
to ANNEX E (Evacuation and Shelter)**

**ESTIMATED PET POPULATION WORKSHEET**

To assist in your planning efforts, the following worksheet will give you an estimate of the number of \_\_\_\_\_s in your community.

Formal studies conducted by the American Veterinary Medical Association in 1996 revealed the following: (1) percentage of households having a pet and (2) the number of pets per household:

	Percentage of Households Having a Pet	Number of Pets per Household
Dogs	31.6	2.19
Cats	27.3	1.69
Birds	5.7	2.16

**WORKSHEET:**

NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	X	_____
PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS HAVING PETS/100		_____
	=	
TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS HAVING PETS	X	_____
NUMBER OF PETS PER HOUSEHOLD		_____
	=	_____
ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PETS IN AREA		_____

Below is a sample formula for determining the number of pets per municipality/county. The estimated population base, in the sample, is for 1,000 households.

Dogs: 1,000 x .316 = 316 x 2.19 = 692  
 Cats: 1,000 x .273 = 273 x 1.69 = 461  
 Birds: 1,000 x .057 = 57 x 2.16 = 123  
 Total: 1276

FROM: "Guidelines for Developing An Animal Disaster Plan In Your Community"  
by Cindy Ferguson, Humane Society of the United States

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**ATTACHMENT 2 (Local Sheltering & Other Resources)  
to APPENDIX 1 (Sheltering Pets)  
to ANNEX E (Evacuation and Shelter)**

A. DNR

DNR, Wildlife Management  
910 Highway 54 E.  
Black River Falls, WI 715-284-1419

B. FEED DEALERS

Anderson Feeds, Inc.  
19775 E. Mill Road  
Galesville, WI 608-582-2595

Fairchild Farmers Union Co-Op  
Humbird, WI 715-964-2411

Farmer's Co-Operative Supply & Shipping Association  
Hwy 54  
Melrose, WI 608-488-3182  
or

136 E. Elm  
West Salem, WI 608-786-1102

Farmers Co-Op Oil Co.  
144 Depot  
Hixton, WI 715-963-2041

Federation Co-Operative  
Hwy 54 East  
Black River Falls, WI 715-284-4381

Hegg Mill  
12035 County Road C  
Ettrick, WI 608-525-4545

Melrose Farm Service Mill  
or

Alma Center Office  
200 W. Clark  
Alma Center, WI 715-964-1119

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Tranberg Brothers Feeds N597 North Bend, WI	608-488-5811
HO-CHUNK NATION Executive Office Bldg. Main Office Information	715-284-9343
C. <u>JACKSON, COUNTY OF</u> Animal Shelter	715-284-0251
D. <u>KENNELS</u> Paws Inn W9784 Hwy 54 Black River Falls, WI	715-284-7688
Kathy's Animal Ark N9007 Cty. Rd. E Black River Falls, WI	715-333-7387
K-9 Country Lodge W11864 Cty Rd. C Black River Falls, WI	715-284-3647
E. <u>LIVESTOCK FEEDING</u> V & M Manufacturing, Inc. 302nd Taylor, WI	715-662-2211
F. <u>PEST CONTROL SERVICES</u> Orkin Exterminating Co., Inc Black River Falls, WI	715-284-4551
G. <u>PET SHOPS</u> Pet Paradise 224 Main Black River Falls, WI	715-284-1690

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**H. VETERINARY HOSPITALS**

Grassland Veterinarian Service  
115 Maple Street  
Granton, WI 715-238-7686

**I. VETERINARIANS**

Blair Veterinary Clinic  
322 W. 1st  
Blair, WI 608-989-2528

Country Pet Clinic  
W11880 Cty. Rd. C  
Black River Falls, WI 715-284-7297

Hart Veterinary Service  
310 Hwy A  
Black River Falls, WI 175-284-4424

Melrose Veterinary Clinic  
304 N. Washington  
Melrose, WI 608-488-4171

Osseo-Augusta Veterinary Clinic (24 hour emergency service)  
12936 12th  
Osseo, WI 715-597-3158

Strandberg Veterinary Service  
100 W. Main  
Alma Center, WI 715-964-5441

Dr. Tripp (24 Hour Emergency Service)  
1701 W. Wisconsin Street  
Sparta WI 54656 608-269-8234

**ANNEX E (EVACUATION AND SHELTER)**  
**Attachment 3 (Reception Center and Shelter Map)**

**APPENDIX 2 (Statement of Understanding)**  
**to ANNEX E (Evacuation and Shelter)**

**Statement of Understanding**  
**Between the**

\_\_\_\_\_ and  
**Jackson County Emergency Management**

**PURPOSE**

This statement defines an agreement between the \_\_\_\_\_ and Jackson County Emergency Management in caring for pets during disaster situations.

**HAZARDS IN WISCONSIN**

Wisconsin is vulnerable to a wide range of hazards, both natural and technological. Periodic disasters result from tornadoes, floods, winter storms, drought, hazardous material accidents, terrorism and other events that can cause injuries and loss of life, disruption of services and significant property damage.

**METHOD OF COOPERATION**

In order that the \_\_\_\_\_ and Jackson County Emergency Management will work in cooperation in performing services during disaster situations, the organizations have agreed as follows:

1. Liaison will be maintained between the organizations at a local/county level in planning and disaster situations.
2. The Red Cross will not undertake or provide any pet relief efforts.
3. Jackson County Emergency Management will provide \_\_\_\_\_ with available data regarding the effects of a disaster and progress of relief efforts.
4. Activities of the \_\_\_\_\_ in responding to pet disaster relief will be coordinated with the appropriate local government agencies. This could include:
  - ◆ the provision of shelter
  - ◆ the provision of food
  - ◆ the provision of medical treatment
  - ◆ tagging of pets for the return to their owners, etc., and
  - ◆ (other responsibilities, as necessary)

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5. The Jackson County Animal Shelter will serve as the coordinating agency for all pet relief efforts. Through Jackson County Animal Shelter, all efforts will be expended to reunite pets with owners subsequent to a disaster. Pets will be sheltered as long as possible or until reasonable possibilities of placement have been exhausted.
6. The cost of boarding and other pet disaster expenditures will be the responsibility of the pet's owner. The boarding facility will bill as they would under normal situations or at its discretion based on the disaster situation. The boarding facility may rely on its paid staff, volunteer network and/or local resources to offer pet housing and care.
7. No government agency will assume any financial responsibilities for pet disaster relief.
8. Jackson County Emergency Management will provide technical assistance, as appropriate, for disaster preparedness activities, such as the development of local response plans and training programs.
9. To keep the public fully informed, Jackson County Emergency Management, and the \_\_\_\_\_ will coordinate public information and education efforts.
10. This statement of understanding will end following one week notification by either \_\_\_\_\_ or Jackson County Emergency Management and will be subject to annual review, if requested by either party.

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Elliott, Director  
Jackson County Emergency Management

Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Agency Representative

Date