Coordinating Agency: Johnson County Extension Office

Support Agencies:
- Johnson County Park and Recreation
- Johnson County Public Works
- Johnson County Fair Board
- Jurisdictional Animal Control Officers
- Jurisdictional Fire Departments
- Jurisdictional Law Enforcement
- Kansas City Veterinary Medical Association
- Kansas Veterinary Medical Association
- Johnson County Animal Response Team (JoCART)
- CODE 3
- Animal Emergency Response Organizations

INTRODUCTION

Purpose
The purpose of the *ESF-11 Animal Welfare Appendix* is to establish how animal welfare (household pets, unclaimed animals, service animals, and livestock) response activities will be coordinated to meet the needs generated by disasters affecting Johnson County.

Scope
This annex identifies the key policies, concepts of operations, roles and responsibilities, and capabilities associated with *ESF-11 Animal Welfare Appendix* in Johnson County. Specific operating procedures and protocols are addressed in documents maintained by the participating organizations.

*ESF-11 Animal Welfare Appendix* applies to all individuals and organizations and the full range of animal welfare support that may be required during disaster response and recovery operations in Johnson County. In addition, this Appendix will provide Household Animal Pet and Service Animal Support in relation to *ESF-6 Mass Care Annex* during emergencies/disasters.

ESF-11 Animal Welfare Appendix will address:
- Service Animals
- Household pets and unclaimed animals
search and collections
emergency sheltering
feeding and care
medical treatment
reclaiming and reunion

Livestock

SITUATION & ASSUMPTIONS

In addition to the “Situation and Assumptions” section in the Basic Plan and the ESF-11 Annex, the Concept of Operations for ESF-11 Animal Welfare Appendix is based on the following:

Situation

1. Disasters in Johnson County could result in the evacuation or displacement of residents and their household pets and service animals.

2. Some humans may endanger their lives and others’ to ensure the safety and well-being of household pets (e.g. refusing to evacuate or re-entering dangerous areas).

3. Household pet owners have the primary responsibility to care for their pets prior to, during, and after disasters and are strongly encouraged to consider and plan for their animals’ needs before a disaster occurs.

4. When owners are unable to provide for the needs of their household pets and service animals, Johnson County will provide for the rescue, care, shelter, and essential needs of those animals in compliance with the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Act of 2006.

5. Service animals are the only animals permitted inside emergency mass care shelters in Johnson County. This requires that household pets must be cared for in a separate part of the shelter facility that is isolated from the human component or at a separate shelter facility.

6. Household pets and service animals may require immediate first aid and emergency medical attention following a natural or technological disaster.

7. Jurisdictional Animal Control officers in Johnson County may also be assigned to life saving activities as a priority during a disaster, which may conflict with animal response needs.

8. Because of the limited resource in Johnson County for Animal Welfare response, there are external private, non-profit, and volunteer organizations that may be utilized when necessary.
9. Impacts of livestock in Johnson County from a disaster may include being displaced from the original home location, open to free from original containment area, injured, etc. Jurisdiction officials may not be able to identify owners of the livestock to return them.

10. Specialized transportation may be needed for specific types of animals.

Assumptions

1. Household pet and service animal owners will make appropriate preparations for their animals before a disaster occurs.

2. When household pet and service animal owners are displaced due to a disaster they will evacuate to pre-arranged locations where they can care for their own animals or they will evacuate to public shelter facilities.

3. Individuals who rely on public transportation in their daily lives will need support to evacuate themselves and their household pets and service animals. The Jo will allow pets, with leashes and/or animal carriers, onto the buses during a disaster.

4. Evacuees with pets will bring items to care for the specific needs of their animals such as collars, leashes, carriers, muzzles, and medications.

5. Most household pet owners will provide species-specific enclosures for birds, rabbits, rodents, and turtles. Most of these pets will remain in the enclosure provided by their owner during the sheltering period.

6. Service animals will accompany their owners on all public transportation vehicles in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

7. Pre-identified shelter facilities will have a license from the State that allows them to legally shelter animals on a temporary basis.

8. The large number of homeless/injured pets, livestock, and exotic animals, would be a health and nuisance/bite threat, which would necessitate a response to address the capture and subsequent sheltering of these animals.

9. Triage and treatment of sick and injured animals to include euthanasia, if necessary, would have to be coordinated by veterinarians at designated shelters and private offices for small pets, and in the field for larger livestock.

10. The accumulation of animal carcasses throughout the County must be removed to authorized solid waste dumping sites and/or burnt or buried on site.
11. Sheltered animals will need to be re-united with their owners after the disaster.

12. In general, physical methods of euthanasia will be in accordance with established city and county Animal Control office guidelines. Where large numbers of livestock or pets are involved, these procedures may have to be modified, but will adhere, to the extent possible, to guidelines for humane euthanasia of animals.

**CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

**General**

1. The care and needs of household pets and service animals prior to, during, and after an emergency situation or disaster are the primary responsibility of their owners. When owners are unable to provide for the care and needs of their animals, then local jurisdictions will assist them, as outlined in the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Act of 2006 and FEMA Disaster Assistance Policy 9523.19.

2. Any local animal control agency of the jurisdiction that experiences a potential or actual emergency or disaster may request this plan be activated.

3. Johnson County Extension Office is the Coordinating Agency for ESF-11. In addition, the Johnson County Sheriff’s Office will partner with the Extension Office as the Animal Welfare Task Force. Together they will work with the ESF-11 Supporting Agencies to fulfill the ESF-11 mission.

4. The mission of the ESF-11 Animal Welfare Team is to ensure the provision of household pet care required to meet the needs generated by disaster affecting Johnson County. The ESF-11 Team will orchestrate the countywide coordination required to fulfill this mission. These activities will include:

   a. Establish and maintain operational awareness of household pet care operations through a direct communications link with operational entities. (Animal Control Officers, Community Animal Shelter Facilities and Volunteer Groups, liaisons, etc.)

   b. Receive, manage, & track resource requests for ESF-11.

   c. Collect information relative to ESF-11 and prepare it for inclusion into WebEOC and EOC documents including EOC Action Plans and Situational Reports.

   d. Based on disaster impact assessment information, conduct household pet care needs assessments, prioritize requirements based on operational objectives, and coordinate the acquisition and deployment of equipment and personnel, as required.

   e. Assist in meeting appropriate staffing needs of the County ESF-11 Team in the EOC throughout activations.
f. Coordinate with ESF-15 Community Relations to provide Household Pet Care services public information to disseminate where appropriate.

5. Specialized facilities (i.e., animal shelters, veterinary hospitals & clinics, boarding facilities, etc.) are responsible for making their own arrangements for emergency energy sources to provide proper environmental conditions, food & water to highly vulnerable animal populations. To the extent possible, JCEM will coordinate efforts to meet any additional or unforeseen emergency requirements.

6. The ESF-11 Team may reach out to organizations such as the Johnson County Animal Response Team (JoCART), the Kansas City Veterinarian Medical Association (KCVMA), the Kansas Animal Control Officers Association (KACA), and the Kansas Veterinarian Medical Association (KVMA) for animal care support.

7. In most circumstances, critical supplies will be available either locally or within the greater Kansas City metropolitan area. Should additional critical supplies be needed, local & state Veterinary Medical Associations can provide listings of resources available and assistance with their procurement and delivery. These organizations can also help coordinate donations management of such supplies.

8. The following Animal Support functions listed below are outlined in this section:
   a. Animal Search and Rescue
   b. Shelter Operations, Feed, and Care
   c. Medical Treatment
   d. Reclaim and Reunion

9. All individuals/organizations involved in disaster response should collect and record information on the utilization of labor, materials, equipment, and disaster-related costs. Templates will be made available to responding agencies.

**Animal Search and Rescue (ASAR)**

1. Jurisdictional Animal Control officers will be the first responders to begin animal search and rescue. Other first responders may also be involved in the case of evacuation of a pet owner and pet together, or a pet or stray animal with no known owner found at the time of rescue. Jurisdictions will use existing animal control processes until the need exceeds their capabilities. They will then contact the EOC to activate the ESF-11 Animal Welfare team for support.

2. Animal control will follow standard guidelines for entering homes. Under normal circumstances, they would prefer consent and a key to door; however, during emergencies, at a particular level (e.g., if property is damaged) they may enter a home without consent as long as it could be justified and given consent up the chain.
3. The ESF-11 Animal Welfare Team will then contact other regional resources and/or alternate professional providers for search and rescue support. In addition, the ESF-11 Animal Welfare Team may contact the state for additional resources and support.

4. Animal control services, both county and city, have a very limited capability to transport animals to temporary shelters or injured animals to veterinary relief facilities. Assistance with animal transportation may be available through ESF-1 Transportation or from surrounding counties through established mutual support agreements. Local & state Veterinary Medical Associations may also be able to provide listings of available transportation resources. In addition, local chapters of the Humane Society can coordinate with the American Red Cross to pick-up any animals arriving at Red Cross shelters and transport them to kennels or other temporary holding facilities. Animal carriers and supplies, along with appropriate transportation vehicles will need to be considered to transport animals safely.

5. Animal Control officers and others involved in the rescue and/or recovery of stray pets & livestock will be responsible for following a redefined identification system to record pertinent information & tag the animals.

**Shelter Operations, Feed, and Care**

1. For large scale events, ESF-11 will work with local and state chapters of the Veterinary Medical Association, the Humane Society, and Community Partners (such as local animal shelters, animal response teams, and other animal support organizations) to help coordinate pet shelter activities with the extension office and other farm related agencies or organizations for issues regarding livestock.

2. Temporary shelter locations and addresses will be provided to first responders and search and rescue personnel to enable them to transport animals quickly and directly.

3. A pre-scripted message will include shelter locations, owner responsibilities, and other pertinent information, which will be disseminated through the public information system. (See ESF-15 Public Information)

4. Shelter staff and volunteer personnel will have completed an orientation and shelter operations training. The orientation covers the general situation, shelter-specific setup, safety guidelines, shelter organization, and assignment. Staff and volunteers will receive just-in-time training, as needed, specific to their assignment. These personnel may include county employees, animal control officers, and coordinated and trained volunteers.

5. All animals arriving at the household pet shelter, whether rescued, arriving with their owner, or arriving via ESF-1 Transportation Team, will go through a registration and intake process.
6. Animal care at the congregate household pet shelter consists of housekeeping, cleaning and sanitizing, pest control, housing, feeding, watering, and handling sheltered animals. In some cases, animal care may be provided by the pet owners.

7. During short or long-term sheltering operations, local animal food suppliers and citizens may wish to donate money or goods to the household pet and service animal shelter(s). The acceptance of these donations must be carefully documented and delivered to the appropriate shelter or shelter manager.

8. The facility should be decontaminated and disinfected to prevent the transmission of disease. The facility should be returned to its original configuration and order to the greatest extent practical.

9. All equipment and supplies will be returned to a ready state in order to ensure their availability for follow-on operations. Organize and secure all appropriate documentation.

10. ESF 11 will work with ESF 6 and 7 for coordination of donated goods.

**Medical Treatment**

1. The County has a significant local capability for providing expedient health services to injured response animals, pets and livestock that includes over 80 veterinary hospitals & clinics. While the county has no zoos or wild animal parks, care for such exotic animals would be available from the Kansas City Zoo, in Kansas City, MO.

2. Emergency first aid and medical attention may be required for animals rescued from the disaster area. Those animals may undergo primary decontamination by first responders and a secondary decontamination by certified staff. The nature and extent of each animal’s exposure to hazardous materials will guide the administration of secondary decontamination techniques.

3. Over the entire emergency period, household pets and service animals may require non-emergency veterinary attention. Veterinary care should only be administered by certified staff. Records of individual treatments should be kept, including animal identification information, name of product(s) administered, name of the individual administering the product, and the name of the supervising veterinarian. Some of these medical treatments may include:

   a. Decontamination- Household pets or service animals that have come in contact with flood water or other hazardous materials should undergo decontamination. Primary decontamination may be performed by first responders in the field or outside of the shelter facility. Secondary decontamination may be necessary depending on the type of hazardous material(s) the animal has come in contact with. Secondary decontamination will be performed by a certified responder or qualified veterinarian staff member.
b. Triage and First Aid- Emergency care will be prioritized based on the severity of animal conditions. Only qualified staff may provide first aid to animals. The triage and first aid staff must be able to provide emergency medical care.

c. Prevention and Treatment of Transmissible Diseases- Transmissible diseases, including Zoonotic diseases, which are shared between animals and people, could pose a risk to humans and animals in a shelter environment. Basic animal management and disease control guidelines should be followed to maintain human and animal health and reduce the risk of disease transmission.

d. Isolation and Quarantine- Isolation and quarantine serve to protect human safety and animal health by containing the spread of disease. Rabies isolation areas should be separate from other isolation and quarantine areas.

e. Euthanasia- Euthanasia is the act of inducing humane death in an animal. A veterinarian or licensed euthanasia technician should make the determination when euthanasia is appropriate and which method should be administered.

f. Mortality Management- Appropriate and efficient carcass disposal is required to protect human and animal health, the food supply, and the environment. Kansas Department of Health and Environment will provide direction and/or oversee this process.

Reclaim and Reunion

1. Household pet owners will be given an opportunity to be re-united with their animal(s). Information taken during the intake process will be utilized for reunification. In addition, reasonable measures will be taken to inform household pet owners and promote reunification.

2. Unclaimed animals or situations where the owners are unavailable require special consideration requiring disposition and care. To the extent possible, local Animal Control officers will retain this responsibility within their own jurisdictions. Should the problem exceed local capability, assistance may be available from surrounding counties through established mutual support agreements. If additional resources are required, local & state chapters of the Veterinary Medical Association and the Humane Society may also be able to assist with locating & obtaining these services.

3. Animals that have not been claimed within a reasonable period of time will be offered up for adoption and otherwise handled in accordance with existing policies regarding stray animals. The KCVMA can establish a Pet Hotline to assist owners with finding and claiming their pets.
# ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

## ESF-11 Animal Welfare Team

The mission of the ESF-11 Animal Welfare Team is to ensure the provision of animal welfare and natural resource support required to meet the needs generated by disaster affecting Johnson County.

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<tr>
<th>Coordinating Agency</th>
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<td>Animal Emergency Response Organizations</td>
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### Preparedness

- Review the ESF-11 Annex annually and update as needed
- Continually evaluate the capabilities required to accomplish the ESF-11 mission, identify any gaps, and leverage resources to address them
- Manage the resolution of ESF-11 after-action issues
- Develop and/or participate in relevant ESF related planning, training, and exercise activities at the local, regional, state, and/or federal level
- Ensure necessary supplements to the ESF annex are developed and maintained (including emergency contact lists, resource lists, departmental/functional plans, procedures, protocols, & EOC job aids)
- Ensure representatives from the Coordinating Agency and Support Agencies are fully trained and prepared to respond to the County EOC as ESF-11 Team Members

### Response

- Establish and maintain operational awareness of household pet care operations through a direct communications link with operational entities. (Animal Control Officers, Community Animal Shelter Facilities and Volunteer Groups, liaisons, etc.)
- Receive, manage, & track resource requests for ESF-11.
- Collect information relative to ESF-11 and prepare it for inclusion into WebEOC and EOC documents including EOC Action Plans and Situational Reports.
- Based on disaster impact assessment information, conduct household pet care needs assessments, prioritize requirements based on operational objectives, and coordinate the acquisition and deployment of equipment and personnel, as required.
- Assist in meeting appropriate staffing needs of the County ESF-11 Team in the EOC throughout activations.
- Coordinate with ESF-15 Community Relations to provide Household Pet Care services public information to disseminate where appropriate.

### Recovery

- Coordinate the ESF-11 support of recovery activities
- Coordinate the restoration of ESF-11 resources and/or capabilities as needed
### ESF-11 Animal Welfare Coordinating Agency Responsibilities

#### Johnson County Extension Office

**Preparedness**
- Ensure each of the preparedness responsibilities identified for the County ESF-11 Team (listed above) are accomplished
- Maintain an inventory of agency resources
- Provide current emergency contact information to Johnson County Emergency Management

**Response**
- Provide Agriculture, Animal Welfare, and Natural Resource support in emergency/disasters, in accordance with departmental operations guides & protocols, existing MOUs & agreements, and the ESF
- Ensure each of the response responsibilities identified for the County ESF-11 Team (listed above) are accomplished regardless of the activation/staffing level of the County EOC
- Arrange for appropriate staffing of the County ESF-11 Team in the EOC throughout activations
- Coordinate the activities of ESF-11 Team Members in the County EOC

**Recovery**
- Coordinate the ESF-11 support of recovery activities
- Coordinate the restoration of ESF-11 resources and/or capabilities as needed
- Ensure ESF-11 Team Members and/or their agencies provide appropriate records of costs incurred
- Conduct an ESF-11 after action review

**Mitigation**
- Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents

### ESF Support Agency Responsibilities

#### Community Animal Shelter Facilities and Volunteer Groups

**Preparedness**
- Assist with the ESF-11 Team preparedness activities (listed above)
- Maintain an inventory of agency resources
- Provide current emergency contact information to Johnson County Emergency Management

**Response**
- Coordinate response activities with the ESF-11 Team in support of the ESF-11 mission
  - Provide care of temporary shelter facility and animals being sheltered, to include intake and reclaim and reunion process
- Send agency representatives to the County EOC as part of the ESF-11 Team when activated

**Recovery**
- Coordinate the restoration of agency resources and/or capabilities as needed
- Participate in countywide recovery planning and activities
- Prepare the documentation required to become eligible for reimbursement
- Participate in after action reviews

**Mitigation**
- Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents

#### Johnson County Park and Recreation
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                     • Provide current emergency contact information to Johnson County Emergency Management |
| **Response**     | • Coordinate response activities with the ESF-11 Team in support of the ESF-11 mission  
                     • Send agency representatives to the County EOC as part of the ESF-11 Team when activated |
| **Recovery**     | • Coordinate the restoration of agency resources and/or capabilities as needed  
                     • Participate in countywide recovery planning and activities  
                     • Prepare the documentation required to become eligible for reimbursement  
                     • Participate in after action reviews |
| **Mitigation**   | • Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents |

**Johnson County Public Works**

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| **Response**     | • Coordinate response activities with the ESF-11 Team in support of the ESF-11 mission  
                     • Send agency representatives to the County EOC as part of the ESF-11 Team when activated |
| **Recovery**     | • Coordinate the restoration of agency resources and/or capabilities as needed  
                     • Participate in countywide recovery planning and activities  
                     • Prepare the documentation required to become eligible for reimbursement  
                     • Participate in after action reviews |
| **Mitigation**   | • Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents |

**Jurisdictional Animal Control Officers**

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                     • Provide current emergency contact information to Johnson County Emergency Management |
| **Response**     | • Coordinate response activities with the ESF-11 Team in support of the ESF-11 mission  
                     - First responders to begin animal search and rescue  
                     • Send agency representatives to the County EOC as part of the ESF-11 Team when activated |
| **Recovery**     | • Coordinate the restoration of agency resources and/or capabilities as needed  
                     • Participate in countywide recovery planning and activities  
                     • Prepare the documentation required to become eligible for reimbursement  
                     • Participate in after action reviews |
| **Mitigation**   | • Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents |

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| **Response**     | • Coordinate response activities with the ESF-11 Team in support of the ESF-11 mission  

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<tr>
<td>• Dispatching services and communications support (city specific function)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Establish perimeter security</td>
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<td>• Provide security for existing and/or temporary morgues or burial sites</td>
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<td>• Provide security at facilities used for emergency purposes, animal shelters</td>
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<td>• Ensure the safety and well-being of responders.</td>
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**Johnson County Animal Response Team/Code 3**

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• Provide current emergency contact information to Johnson County Emergency Management |
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  • Provide listings of resources available and assistance with their procurement and delivery  
  • Coordinate pet shelter activities with the Extension Office and other farm related agencies or organizations for issues regarding livestock.  
  • Provide animal health care as appropriate  
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| Recovery | • Coordinate the restoration of agency resources and/or capabilities as needed  
  • Participate in countywide recovery planning and activities  
  • Prepare the documentation required to become eligible for reimbursement  
  • Participate in after action reviews |
| Mitigation | • Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents |

**POLICIES, AUTHORITIES, AND REFERENCES**

*Please refer to the Basic Plan or ESF 11 Annex for additional Policies, Authorities, and References.*