

How to Engage your Local Emergency Management

Are you ready to spread the great news about AKC Pet Disaster Relief? Though this is a very serious issue, the help AKC Pet Disaster Relief can provide to your community and its pets is real and exciting. Take advantage of all the benefits AKC Pet Disaster Relief can offer your Organization:

1. Build meaningful grassroots relationships
2. Demonstrate your concern for all pets
3. Raise awareness of the critical need of sheltering pets in the event of a disaster.

If you do not know who to contact, FEMA.gov has a State Directory of Emergency Managers. You can also do a web search with your State's name and "Local Emergency Management", oftentimes states have online directories at the regional or county level.

Welcome to Whole Community Planning and Preparedness

Regardless of the size or budget of a community, Local Emergency Management is now required by law to prepare and care for its citizens – including plans to accommodate people with their pets in the event of a disaster. To successfully meet these newer legal requirements, government organizations cannot alone meet the challenges posed by a catastrophe. This law and other mandates as a result of the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina are the catalyst for the concept of Whole Community planning and preparedness.

Whole Community planning is spear-headed by Local Emergency Management teams. These teams are often organized by county or at a regional level, dependent upon the state. Local Emergency management collaborates with federal, local, and state partners along with faith-based organizations, non-profit groups, and the private sector to identify and plan for the potential risks to their area. Whether disaster threats are floods, fires, explosions, hurricanes, tornadoes, or earthquakes, Whole Community efforts identify the resources that can assist and determine the best ways prepare for, respond to and recover from catastrophic events.

AKC Pet Disaster Relief can be a key component to your local WHOLE COMMUNITY disaster planning efforts – especially with their legal obligation to assist people and their pets.

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Benefits of AKC Pet Disaster Relief to Your Local Emergency Management

AKC Pet Disaster Relief provides local municipalities with an invaluable resource to meet these requirements and to shelter pets during disasters.

The AKC Pet Disaster Relief trailer is stocked with essential supplies to house at least 65 pets the first 72 hours after a disaster is declared. The trailer has lighting and is wired for electricity, to run off either a generator or 110v power supply. Its contents are supplied based on North Carolina's State Animal Response Team expertise in handling hurricanes, floods, fires and tornados.

Following is a sampling of typical contents:

- Administrative Supplies: Log books, Volunteer registration forms, wrist/collar bands, check-in materials
- Maintenance Equipment: Batteries, Gas Can, Duct Tape
- Animal Care: Crates packed on rolling dollies for easy set-up, cat carriers,; litter, microchips and scanner, bowls, collars and leashes
- Equipment: Fans, Generator, Lighting, Hose
- Cleaning Supplies: Mop, trash can, tarps, litter boxes, disinfectants
- Access to training materials: Turnkey implementation of Co-Located Shelters and Pop-up Reunion Centers, Volunteer Mobilization, Decontamination and Replenishment
- Training materials are also available

Local Emergency Management will use AKC Pet Disaster Relief in two different ways.

- A. As Co-location Shelters: keep animals and their human companions together, commonly needed during an evacuation due to an approaching hurricane, wildfires or even Hazmat dangers. In these situations, families are responsible for their pets' general care.
- B. As Lost and Found Pet Shelters: provide sheltering and care for pets lost from their families during a disaster. Local Emergency Management and approved volunteers handle general pet care.

Get Connected

Discuss partnership possibilities when you present the AKC Pet Disaster Relief concept to your Local Emergency Management team. The more exposure your community has to the resources available for its pets during a disaster, the better chances Local Emergency Management will have in successful disaster response. Showcasing AKC Pet Disaster Relief at Responsible Dog Ownership Day or other Public Education functions is a great idea. Displaying the trailer at a county fair and

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in local parades is also an easy way for your Local Emergency Management to proactively get the word out that they are prepared to help its people and their pets in the event of a disaster,

What your Local Emergency Management Needs to Know about their partnership with AKC Pet Disaster Relief

AKC Pet Disaster Relief trailer will be delivered fully stocked with logos applied, including the name of the Local Emergency Management team. The municipality is not authorized to add additional logos or remove the logos provided on the trailer. We expect it to take up to 90 days to deliver a trailer once the money has been raised, the club logos are received, the GRANT APPLICATION is approved and the AGREEMENT is signed. The time may be affected by the volume of trailers requested. These forms can be found at www.akcreunite.org/relief

The Local Emergency Management Team will take possession of the trailer and per the AGREEMENT terms, they will assume insurance requirements, as well as proper storage and maintenance of trailer and its contents. Local Emergency Management is authorized to use the trailer whenever a disaster is declared. More information about the equipment's uses and restrictions can be found in the AGREEMENT found at www.akcreunite.org/relief

The recipient organization must have access to a vehicle capable of transporting the Unit. The typical Unit is a 16ft x 7ft two-axle trailer with up to 10,000 lb GVW. Truck should be at least ¾ ton with electric brakes and 10,000 lb pound hitch.

Perishable items like vaccines and food cannot be stored on the trailer. Local Emergency Management's planning should include deployment of veterinary care and resources, trained volunteers and sources for perishable items, such as food. Oftentimes the community will step up and donate food and pet care supplies after a disaster, too.

It is possible for AKC Pet Disaster Relief equipment to be shared with neighboring municipalities. To do this, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is usually required between the two entities. Your Local Emergency Management should be familiar with this process.

