



# Florida State Agricultural Response Team

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[Recipient Name(s)]

[Recipient Address]

[Date]

Dear [Emergency Management Official's Name]:

Living in Florida, we are subject to many potential disasters, both natural and man-made. Events of recent years indicate that both natural disasters and man-made disasters are real threats to Florida animals and agriculture. The emergency support function for animals and agriculture under the Florida comprehensive emergency management plan is currently ESF-17.

In order to better serve the animal and agriculture industries of Florida, the State Agricultural Response Team (SART) was created. SART is a cooperative effort between multiple federal, state and local government agencies and private organizations including the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the United States Department of Agriculture and the University of Florida IFAS Extension Service, among others. The mission is to empower Floridians through training and resources to enhance animal and agriculture disaster response.

Any disaster is a local disaster first. The county SART is the key resource to support the county's ESF-17 coordinator and emergency manager. SART members may be called upon to assist with various tasks associated with animal and agriculture disaster response and recovery operations related to animal and agriculture needs.

We, the undersigned, are interested in forming a county SART in [county name] County. As part of its formation, we would like to schedule a time to meet with you and further discuss SART and what a county SART offers our community. Only one hour of your time is needed. One of the undersigned community members will be contacting you shortly to schedule a mutually agreeable time to meet.

We look forward to speaking with you about this important endeavor.

Kindest regards,



[Names of Action Committee Members and, as applicable, Agency Affiliations]