Shelter from the Storm
Keeping People and Pets Safe

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Agenda

• Jacksonville Demographics
• Pre-incident preparation
• During incident
• Post incident
• Lessons Learned
• Jacksonville population*: 913,010
• Number of households*: 343,467
• Estimated animal population:
  • Dogs: 205,076
  • Cats: 224,039
  • Birds: 24,932
  • Horses: 14,397

*U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey
Estimated Animal Population

• Can you shelter the number of pets in your community?

• Know where your local resources are and establish a relationship early.
  • Animal shelters
  • Boarding facilities
  • Veterinary clinics
  • Dog training facilities
  • Pet stores

Jacksonville Demographics
Pre-incident Preparation

- Collaboration with national organizations
  - Humane Society of the United States
  - American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
• City-wide Sheltering Plan
  • American Red Cross
  • Emergency Preparedness Division
  • Duval County Public Schools
  • Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office
  • Animal Care & Protective Services

Pre-incident Preparation
Pet-friendly emergency evacuation shelters

- Locations
- Animal capacity
- Supplies
- Staffing needs
- SOPs

Pre-Incident Preparation
• Locations
• Animal Capacity

• What species of animals do you allow?

• Separate housing areas for dogs, cat, and other species

• Total capacity for each species?
Lesson learned-separate species
Sheltered ~250 animals with about half of them being at one location!
• Set pre-determined limits
• Know when to say no (and who can say no!)
Pre-incident Preparation

- Supplies
  - Crates
  - Floor covering
  - Office supplies
  - Cleaning supplies
  - Communication devices
  - Registration forms
  - Bowls, leashes, pet food….

- Who is responsible for what?

- Supply kit for each location
Pre-Incident Preparation

• Staffing Needs
  • How many?
  • What functions will they perform?
  • Animal shelter employees or from other agencies?
  • Activation plan and notification
  • Can volunteers be of assistance?
• Emergency Operations Center Activation
  • Pet Friendly Shelter Group Supervisor - EOC headquarters
  • Shelter Manager - Main Shelter
  • Staff – Main Shelter & Pet Friendly Emergency Shelters
• Where is your staff going to be most useful?
  • Customer Service / adoption staff – Emergency Shelter
  • Animal Control Officers – Emergency Shelter
  • Kennel Staff – main shelter
  • Veterinary technicians - BOTH
  • Supervisors/management – BOTH
• Standard Operating Procedures
  • Staff activation and reporting
  • Shelter set up
  • Registration / Check in
  • Daily duties
  • Rules for pet owners
  • Check out

Pre-incident Preparation
I’m here, now what?

- Shelter set up
  - Designated walking areas
  - How will they get there?
- Registration / Check in
  - A pet arrives without vaccinations
  - A pet appears to be aggressive
  - A pet appears to have a contagious disease
- Daily duties
  - Wake up!
  - Who cares for pets?
  - Limited access
  - Designated care times
- Rules for pet owners
  - Very little room for exceptions
  - Empower staff to speak up and correct
- Check out
  - Staff control
• Communication is key!

During Incident
EOC

Main Shelter

Pet Friendly Shelter Supervisor

ACPS Shelter Manager

DVMs

PFSs

ACPS Supervisor

ACPS Supervisor

ACPS Supervisor

ACPS Supervisor

ACPS Supervisor

EOC Staff

Main Shelter Staff

PFSs Staff

ACPS Supervisor Staff

ACPS Supervisor Staff

ACPS Supervisor Staff

ACPS Supervisor Staff

ACPS Supervisor Staff
Post incident

• Owner and animal check out
  • Maintain organization!

• Shelter breakdown / clean up

• Consolidation of shelters
  • Wednesday PM until Sunday PM
Questions?