



# KENTON COUNTY EOP – INCIDENT SPECIFIC PLAN

## ANIMAL DISASTER RESPONSE PLAN

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# Animal Disaster Response Plan

## INTRODUCTION

Kenton County recognizes a need for pro-active disaster planning for its agencies, farms, businesses, and individual citizens. This plan has been developed by Kenton County Homeland Security Emergency Management (KCHSEM) in cooperation with the Kenton County Animal Disaster Response Team primarily for the safety of Kenton County residents and visitors. It also supports the continuance of vital agriculture operations, promotes responsible animal care and companionship, and reduces harmful interactions between humans and non-domestic animals in the event of a disaster. It is intended to organize a system to allocate proper and pertinent resources.

Failure to plan for the animal population will affect the viability of disaster plans for people. For instance, if the disaster warrants an evacuation, many people will not evacuate without their animals or will delay their own evacuation to first make preparations for animals they must leave behind. These refusals or delays begin a chain reaction that can seriously jeopardize the overall disaster plan.

Further, failure to plan for animals prior to a disaster may lead to serious public health concerns during an incident. Injured, ill, or dead animals can pose disease and injury hazards to the public, which may add strain to an already over-taxed emergency medical system.



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### **PURPOSE**

This emergency response plan is a supporting document to the Kenton County Emergency Operations Plan and has been created to provide structure and guidance to the public safety agencies of Kenton County, Kentucky when providing care for animals during a disaster situation. The purpose of this plan is to protect the public health, the public food supply, domesticated and wild animal resources, the environment, and the agricultural economy. It is intended to ensure the humane care and treatment of animals in case of a disaster, including floods, severe storms, tornadoes, drought, fire, explosion, building collapse, commercial transportation accidents, chemical spills, winter storms, power outages, or other situations that can cause animal suffering.

### **SCOPE**

This plan is intended for use by Kenton County government, cities within Kenton County, and private agencies as a guideline for implementing immediate action to provide care and control of animals, thereby minimizing animal suffering in the event of a significant disaster. In the event of a disaster, care and control measures outlined herein will apply to all animals, wild and domestic, regardless of ownership.

This plan addresses planning and response with regard to all-hazards, however incidents which are due to significant animal disease will require oversight by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture based on established laws and response plans. If incidents of this nature come to your attention, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture's State Veterinarians Office should be notified immediately. For your safety and for biosecurity reasons, do not attempt to move or handle sick or dead animals that may have been affected by an animal disease.

### **PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### County Animal Response Team

##### **Kenton County Homeland Security Emergency Management (KCHSEM)**

- Coordinate support agencies to manage animal protection in emergencies
- Activate the Emergency Operations Center, if necessary
- Responsible for overall direction and control of the disaster incident

##### **Kenton County Animal Shelter / Northern Kentucky Animal Control (KCAS / NKAC)**

Group is composed of the Kenton County Animal Shelter, City Dog Wardens, and the ESF 11 - Agriculture Coordinator.

- Provide and coordinate personnel and equipment to collect, rescue and shelter stray or aggressive companion animals
- Assist in identifying, surveying, and maintaining a list of small animal sheltering facilities and transportation as part of the County Animal Response Team



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- Provide trained personnel (staff or volunteers) and equipment to assist in capture, daily care, transportation, reunification, and the protection of animals during a disaster (working in cooperation with Animal Control division)

#### **Northern Kentucky Health Department (NKHD)**

- Provide services which address injuries/bites/diseases related to the protection of humans and animals
- Assist the Kentucky Department of Agriculture in the disposal of dead animals that may impact the public health and in minimizing zoonotic disease outbreaks during a Disaster

#### **Kenton County Extension Service (KCES)**

- Assist in identifying and procuring additional resources, expertise, volunteers, personnel, equipment, and shelter as required to care for livestock and large companion animals during a Disaster
- Assist in identifying, surveying, and maintaining a list of large animal and equine sheltering facilities and transportation as part of the County Animal Response Team

#### **Kentucky Department of Agriculture - Division of Animal Health**

- Assist in providing information and direction whenever possible with regard to the general health of animals
- Responsible for enforcement of state regulations concerning animal health and the movements of animals affected by those regulations

#### **Kenton County Private Veterinarian(s)**

- Assist in providing information and direction with regard to the general health of animals within their expertise
- Provide assistance with identifying needs of animals in shelter situations

#### **American Red Cross (ARC)**

- Advise and work with the KCAS / NKAC when planning locations for human shelters so that animal shelters can be co-located if possible
- Advise on general issues related to human care and sheltering which may be impacted by animal care facilities

#### Resource Groups & Agencies

(NOTE: Any of these may also be considered for the KCAS / NKAC)

#### **Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association**

- Provide information on local veterinarians
- Encourage their involvement in local animal emergencies and disasters



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### **Private Veterinarians and Veterinary Clinics**

- Provide trained personnel, equipment, and shelter (in accordance with clinic policies) to care for pets from evacuated citizens and in cases when established animal shelters are already filled or have been destroyed
- Provide medical care within their area of expertise

### **Kenton County Farm Bureau**

- Support Kenton County Extension Service (if requested) in providing and identifying facilities, equipment, and trained personnel to assist in the transportation and housing of farm livestock in an emergency shelter situation

### **Local Animal Rescue Groups**

- Provide trained volunteers and equipment to assist in the rescue and sheltering of animals during a Disaster

### **US Forest Service at National Forests**

- Provide confinement for displaced livestock in grazing areas

### **Private Farms, Kennels, and Stables**

- Provide shelter and supplies to care for displaced livestock and / or domesticated animals

### **Kentucky Department of Natural Resources (KyDNR)**

- Provide resources necessary for protection of the environment and water quality related to animal carcass disposal and decomposition

### **Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KyDFWR)**

- Provide trained personnel and equipment as required to protect sick and/or injured non-domestic animals
- Coordinate measures to minimize damage and danger to wildlife, as appropriate
- Advise on issues related to licensed captive cervid facilities (deer and elk)

### **Licensed Wild Animal Rehabilitators**

- Provide housing and care to sick and/or injured non-domestic animals in cooperation with KDFWR

### **USDA Farm Service Agency (County Office)**

- Chairs and coordinates the activities of the USDA County Emergency Board (USDA-CEB) which provides damage / loss assessment of local agricultural commodities
- The USDA-CEB includes representatives of local USDA agencies

### **Northern Kentucky Horse Network (NKHN)**

- Provide assistance with shelter and transportation of horses



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### **Kenton County Cattle Association (KCCA)**

- Provide assistance with shelter and transportation of cattle

## **PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS**

Effective animal protection planning and organization will allow all disaster relief efforts to be more efficient and expedient.

Natural, technological, or manmade disasters could affect the well-being of domesticated and/or non-domesticated animals. This, in turn, can affect the county's overall disaster response plans.

Kenton County should plan for animal-related disaster situations and implement response and recovery operations utilizing local resources. State, federal, and private organizations may provide animal care and rescue assistance in emergencies, when requested.

When notified of an impending disaster, owners of household pets, exotics and livestock will take reasonable steps to shelter and provide for animals under their care and/or control. However, in times of emergency or disaster, public interests may take precedence with regard to sheltering, evacuation, and care of animals.

The sheltering, protection, and identification of domestic animals (including livestock) are the responsibility of their owners. Some livestock species require identification by law, and owners must keep these records.

Animal protection planning should ensure the proper care and recovery of animals impacted during a disaster. This should include identifying housing and shelter for animals, establishing methods of communicating information to the public, collecting stray or lost animals, procuring necessary supplies for the care of the animals, and planning for animal release and return to owners (or to natural habitat for non-domestic animals).

Public information statements, including locations where animals may be accepted during disaster situations, will be issued through various media outlets.

A large-scale disaster in Kenton County may warrant an immediate response from state and local personnel, agencies, and organizations. However, disaster situations may become compounded due to the nature of the disaster and may also require activation of additional specialized agencies through mutual aid agreements.

### **Legal Considerations**

It is important to note that animals can be classified broadly into two categories: privately owned and publicly owned. Livestock and companion animals are private property; they belong to individuals or entities and have an economic value that may require compensation if those animals are ordered destroyed. Wildlife, both game and non-game species, belongs to the people of the State of Kentucky, and separate laws govern them. Federal and state laws govern how animals are cared for and handled.



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*Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006* – Amends the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq. to ensure that State and local emergency preparedness operational plans address the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals following a major disaster or emergency.

*Animal Industry Standards* – Address a variety of topics including: Prevention, control, and eradication of infectious / contagious diseases; Toxicological contamination of livestock and domesticated animals; Importation and movement requirements; Indemnification in some cases.

*Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Resources (KRS Chapter 150)* – Govern wildlife and habitat conservation and management, including taking, possession, and protection.

*Animals Running at Large (Kenton County Ordinance 90.02 and 90.03)* – Dogs running at large and Escaped livestock running at large.

*Dangerous Animals (Kenton County Ordinance 90.08)* – Confinement and destruction of dangerous animals.

*Disposal of Dead Animals, (KRS Chapter 263)* – Disposal requirements for livestock.

*Dog Law (Kenton County Ordinance 90.12)* – Licensing, regulating, destruction of dogs; Payment for losses.

Additionally, there are many other state and federal laws and regulations that control the care and handling of animals. For additional guidance, contact the Kentucky Dept. of Agriculture, The Kentucky Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, the Kentucky Dept. of Natural Resources, or your local animal control official.

In a disaster situation, the Emergency Management Act (KRS 39) may be used, and depending on the circumstances, the laws and regulations governing both domestic and wild animals may be suspended as provided by law.

#### *County Animal Populations*

Determining the number and type of animals in Kenton County is an important component of disaster planning. Ascertaining what livestock industries exist and how many animals those industries represent, as well as estimating the number of companion animals in the area, is crucial for resource planning.

Methods exist to determine or estimate the number of large and small animals in your county. The National Agricultural Statistics Service provides numbers of farms and numbers of farm animals per county (<https://www.nass.usda.gov/>).

Nationally, approximately 60% of households own companion animals, with most owning more than one animal. The American Veterinary Medical Association (<https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/reports-statistics/us-pet-ownership-statistics>) provides estimation formulas for dogs, cats, birds, and horses. Other web sites that may be helpful are the U.S. Census Bureau (<http://www.census.gov>) and the American Pet Products Association (<http://www.americanpetproducts.org>).



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### CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

#### General

The primary and support agencies will manage and coordinate local animal protection activities. These agencies will use established animal protection and support organizations, processes, and procedures. Responsibility for situation assessment and determination of resource needs in the event of a large-scale disaster lies primarily with KCHSEM, the local incident commander, and KCAS / NKAC. Depending upon the nature of the disaster, other partners may assist as listed under primary and support agencies listed in previous sections of this plan.

When county resources and mutual aid agreements are insufficient, animal protection assistance and resources such as food, medicine, shelter material, specialized personnel, and additional veterinary medical professionals, will be requested from the State of Kentucky via processes outlined under the Kentucky Emergency Management Act. Should the need for State or Federal resources arise, the State Emergency Operations Center will coordinate the requests for assistance.

Animal protection operations for both domestic and non-domestic animals will be managed using the Kenton County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Public health concerns will be managed in accordance with appropriate Kenton County plans and procedures.

Domestic animals that are lost, stray, incapable of being cared for by their owners, or a danger to themselves or the public will be the responsibility of the Kenton County Animal Shelter. These animals will be sheltered, fed, and, if possible, returned to their owners.

If the animals cannot be returned to their owners, their disposition will be handled in accordance with established animal control guidelines. The animal control guidelines regarding holding periods may need to be extended to provide time to locate owners during a time of disaster.

Non-domestic animals should be left to their own survival instincts. Non-domestic animals out of their natural habitats that are a danger either to themselves or the public will be the responsibility of the Kentucky Department of Natural Resources. These animals will be returned to their natural habitat if possible.

#### Notification & Communications

KCHSEM will determine when this plan and its procedures will be activated in the event of a disaster that results in a significant need for animal protection. The KCHSEM Director will notify the designated Lead Member of the KCAS / NKAC. The Lead Member will then notify additional members, support agencies, and resources as needed based on the situation.

The Lead Member will work with the ESF 11 - Agriculture Coordinator. Communications among the EOC, the KCAS / NKAC, and support agencies will occur primarily through telephone, facsimile, and cellular telephone transmission. Amateur



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radio may be used as a backup system if other communication is impossible due to the nature of the disaster situation.

#### Public Information

The *ESF 15 – Public Information* Coordinator (or the Kenton County Public Information Officer if that ESF is not activated) will be responsible for the coordination of all media activities and press releases associated with the protection of animals. The Lead Member will coordinate all requests and notifications regarding animal protection through them. Responsibilities may include:

- Notifying the public of appropriate shelters at which to leave lost / stray animals, animals that citizens cannot care for, or animals that need immediate medical assistance. (Appendix A)
- Delivering instructions to the public to prepare their pets or farm animals for an impending disaster. (Appendix A)
- Obtaining animal-related information from members of the KCAS / NKAC and / or its support agencies.
- Promoting public awareness and instructing animal owners on how to prepare and react to all types of disasters through literature, community relations and/or seminars.
- Disseminating public messages for the purpose of recruiting of volunteers to assist where needed in the event of a disaster.

KCHSEM will maintain a list of radio and TV stations for the purpose of public notification when necessary.

#### **Steps:**

1. The PIO will work with KCAS / NKAC prior to an animal incident to develop press release templates for anticipated animal emergencies.
2. During the response phase, the Lead Member of KCAS / NKAC will provide continued updates to the PIO on the animal response effort. This will include general information on the response as well as special instruction for the general public, pet owners, local veterinarians, kennels, agricultural producers, etc. as applicable.
3. The PIO will provide information to the media, public and key audiences as appropriate.

### **RESPONSE**

The owners of pets or livestock, when notified of a disaster, will take all reasonable steps to evacuate, shelter, and care for animals under their control.



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### Search And Rescue Procedures

#### **Equine, Cattle, And Other Livestock**

Equine, cattle, and other livestock loose or in need of assistance due to the disaster will be the responsibility of the owner. In the event of the death or evacuation of their owners, they will become the responsibility of the KCAS / NKAC. All reasonable steps will be taken to involve the owner in this process. However, the Northern Kentucky Horse Network (NKHN) and / or the Kenton County Cattle Association (KCCA) will assist in identifying key people who have animal handling training and understand the basic emergency management concepts (ICS training) to assist rescue efforts if needed.

- ❖ Appendix B – Animal Care Resources
- ❖ Appendix E – Animal Transportation Resources
- ❖ Appendix I – Volunteer Resources

#### **Domestic Pets**

Domestic pets loose or in need of assistance due to the disaster will be the responsibility of the owner. In the event of the death or separation from their owners, pets will become the responsibility of the KCAS / NKAC. All reasonable steps will be taken by KCAS / NKAC to provide assistance under these circumstances. Prior to an incident, KCAS / NKAC will identify key people who have animal handling training and understand the basic emergency management concepts (ICS training) to assist rescue efforts.

- ❖ Appendix B – Animal Care Resources
- ❖ Appendix E – Animal Transportation Resources
- ❖ Appendix I – Volunteer Resources

#### ***SAR Steps For Equine, Cattle, Livestock, And / Or Domestic Pets:***

1. Identify trained individuals in animal search and rescue techniques prior to an incident. (Appendix I)
2. Incident commander identifies geographic areas requiring search and rescue efforts and activates team.
3. A representative of the KCAS / NKAC determines if the livestock or companion animal is able to be cared for by its owner. If the owner is incapacitated or cannot be found, the animal becomes the responsibility of the KCAS / NKAC.
4. Trained personnel assess and document medical condition and temperament of animal.
5. Apply triage on-site if necessary or move animal to treatment facility or shelter using pre-arranged methods of transportation.
6. Document all pertinent information and ensure that a tracking system is in place to return animals to owners.



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### **Wildlife**

Non-domestic animals out of their natural habitat that are endangering either themselves or the human population will be handled in accordance with KyDNR guidelines. If possible, they will be transported back to their natural habitat.

Licensed wildlife rehabilitators may be able to provide care and handling of wildlife that need to be relocated or are injured. A list of licensed wildlife rehabilitators can be found on the KyDFWR website (<http://www.kdfwr.state.ky.us/>).

### *Evacuation And Sheltering Of Animals*

#### **Equine, Cattle, And Other Livestock**

In most cases, equine, cattle, and other livestock should be sheltered in place. If that is not feasible, animals will be transported to private or public facilities by their owners with assistance from the NKHN and / or KCCA. Livestock owners should have evacuation plans, including multiple evacuation routes, decided upon before the need to evacuate arises. Owners are expected to have official identification on all animals when it is legally required (varies by species).

If needed, the NKHN and / or KCCA will provide assistance or facilitation in the transportation of evacuated livestock to a shelter or a medical care facility. The NKHN and / or KCCA will assist in ensuring that a tracking system is in place to unite sheltered horses and livestock with their rightful owners. The NKHN and / or KCCA, with direction from the Kenton County Animal Emergency Response Team, will assist in cleaning and disinfection of transport vehicles. Transportation will be provided by individuals licensed as livestock haulers when possible. The livestock owner is expected to reimburse transport personnel. Every effort will be made to prevent the spread of communicable diseases during the shipping / sheltering period through prevention of co-mingling of animals and appropriate isolation, cleaning, and disinfecting protocols. If practical, vaccination of animals and measures to control endo- and ecto-parasites should be employed. These protocols should be established in consultation with a veterinarian.

If the need arises, the NKHN and / or KCCA will assist in identifying equine and / or livestock shelters. Strong consideration should be given to using the county fairgrounds as a large animal shelter. Mutual aid agreements with surrounding counties for the use of their fairgrounds should also be considered. Private boarding barns or other privately owned facilities may also be considered for shelters with prior approval of the owner, pending the availability of liability insurance and biosecurity measures.

- ❖ Appendix B – Animal Care Resources
- ❖ Appendix C – Animal Holding Areas
- ❖ Appendix E – Animal Transportation Resources
- ❖ Appendix F – Emergency Housing and Care for Equine, Cattle and Other Livestock



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#### ***Steps For Evacuation & Sheltering Of Equine, Cattle, & Other Livestock:***

1. Attempt to shelter livestock in place. If the farm is threatened (e.g., rising flood waters), inform livestock owners of the need to evacuate their animals.
2. Determine if there is a need to activate livestock shelters at pre-determined sites. Contact partners with whom mutual aid agreements have been made to activate sites.
3. Determine type and quantity of resources needed. Contact pre-arranged suppliers to have resources delivered to distribution location.
4. Activate volunteer resources for care of animals.
5. Provide information to livestock owners about the locations in which animals may be sheltered.
6. Provide information to owners on what items should be taken with the animals (tack, feed, water, medications, records, etc.).
7. Provide assistance in obtaining transport of livestock, if requested by owner.
8. Ensure that livestock haulers are using effective protocols for maintaining biosecurity when transporting animals.
9. Ensure that a tracking system is in place to reunite animals with their owners after the incident. For large livestock, this should include identification that can be easily seen from a distance.
10. Maintain strict biosecurity protocols at the livestock shelters to prevent transfer of communicable diseases between animals as well as between animals and the people caring for them.

#### **Domestic Pets**

If the need arises, the KCAS / NKAC may open one or more pet shelters that provide housing and care for common household pets, including dogs, cats, ferrets, rabbits, guinea pigs, etc. The shelter(s) will be at facilities that can provide effective confinement and provision of basic animal care needs such as food, water, and bedding. They should be located as close as possible to the evacuated citizen shelter(s) if possible to minimize travel for owners. Prior to an event, it should be determined if public transportation resources will allow companion animals to accompany their owners during an emergency evacuation. An area at the citizens' evacuation center should be available to provide directions to the pet shelter.

For exotic species which require specialized housing or care, the KCAS / NKAC may refer owners of these animals to shelters specializing in the care of these species, if such shelters are available. Owners of exotic animals requiring specialized care should be encouraged to plan in advance for evacuation and sheltering of their animals.



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Domestic pets of evacuated citizens may be sheltered at private boarding kennels and veterinary hospitals, at the owner's expense.

Owners are encouraged to have a means of proving identification and ownership of pets. This may include microchips, photographs of the owner with the pet, licensing information, medical records, etc.

Each of the citizens' evacuation shelters will have an animal caretaker on the premises. This caretaker will be experienced in or otherwise qualified to evaluate the medical and temperament needs of animals brought to the facility. Recommendations will be made for treatment and/or sheltering provisions, possibly on a case-by-case basis. Pets with significant injuries or illnesses will be transported to a designated animal hospital or provided with medical treatment on-site by veterinary professionals.

A representative of the KCAS / NKAC (or appropriate support organization) will provide assistance in the transportation of the evacuated pets to either the shelter facility or hospital, and ensure that a tracking system is in place to reunite sheltered pets with their rightful owners.

Every effort will be made to prevent the spread of communicable diseases during this transportation/sheltering period by preventing co-mingling of animals and using appropriate isolation, cleaning, and disinfecting protocols. If practical, all animals admitted to the shelter should be vaccinated and measures to control endo- and ecto-parasites should be taken. These protocols should be established in consultation with a veterinarian.

Citizens with special needs (individuals with mental or physical challenges who require evacuation assistance) may also require assistance in evacuating their pets. Therefore, in the interest of public safety, animal owners may be assisted with finding shelter and care for their animals during a public emergency. Upon arrival at the shelter, pets not trained specifically to assist the individual (e.g. seeing-eye dogs) will be transported to a private boarding facility or other animal evacuation facility.

- ❖ Appendix B – Animal Care Resources
- ❖ Appendix C – Animal Holding Areas
- ❖ Appendix E – Animal Transportation Resources
- ❖ Appendix G – Emergency Housing and Care for Household Pets and Exotics

#### ***Steps For Evacuation & Sheltering Of Domestic Pets:***

1. Inform owners of the need to evacuate their animals.
2. Determine if there is a need for KCAS / NKAC to activate companion animal shelters at pre-determined sites. Contact partners with whom mutual aid agreements have been made to arrange use of these sites.
3. Determine type and quantity of resources needed. Contact pre-arranged suppliers to have resources delivered to distribution location.



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4. Activate volunteer resources for care of animals in the KCAS / NKAC shelters.
5. Provide information to pet owners about the locations in which animals may be sheltered, including information on what items should be taken with the animals (food, water, medications, records, etc.).
6. Set up information centers at human evacuation shelters to direct pet owners to animal evacuation shelters.
7. Provide assistance in obtaining transport of pets, if requested by owner.
8. Ensure that a tracking system is in place to reunite animals with their owners after the incident.
9. Maintain strict biosecurity practices at the pet shelters to prevent, as much as possible, the transfer of communicable diseases between animals as well as from animals to people caring for them.

#### Stray / Lost Animal Procedures

Stray and lost animals, including Equine, Cattle, Livestock, Domestic Pets, and Exotics, will be returned to the owners and / or transported according to the plans outlined in the “RECOVERY” section that follows.

- ❖ Appendix B – Animal Care Resources
- ❖ Appendix C – Animal Holding Areas
- ❖ Appendix E – Animal Transportation Resources
- ❖ Appendix F – Guidelines For Handling Horses And Cattle
- ❖ Appendix G – Emergency Housing for Household Pets and Exotics

#### Incapacitation Of Shelters

If the primary animal shelter is incapacitated, mutual aid or alternative plans will be implemented.

#### Shelter Staff

The KCAS / NKAC will be responsible for prearranged staffing of both the large and small animal sheltering facilities they establish.

Private boarding kennels and veterinary hospitals, if utilized, will be responsible for staffing their own boarding facilities and will be compensated by the animal owners according to established policies.

#### Shelter Supplies

KCAS / NKAC will be responsible for pre-identifying sources for critical supplies (potable water, food, medical, cleaning and other shelter supplies) for the shelters they establish. In the event of a disaster, the suppliers will be asked to deliver the needed items to a delivery point, which will serve as a storage center and a distribution center for the shelter(s).



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Private boarding kennels, animal shelters, and veterinary hospitals are encouraged to pre-identify sources for critical supplies.

If the need arises, resource agencies (e.g., humane groups, pet stores, pet food companies, etc.) may be asked to donate cages and other various shelter supplies.

- ❖ Appendix B – Animal Care Resources
- ❖ Appendix H – Veterinary Resources
- ❖ Appendix I – Volunteer Resources

### Medical Assistance

#### **Animal Treatment Facilities**

The KCAS / NKAC will coordinate resources to establish one or more medical facilities for domestic animals that require medical care due to illness or injury. The medical care area(s) may be in the same location or near the animal shelter area(s) for convenience. The KCAS / NKAC will identify private veterinary hospitals and other locations that may serve as alternate medical facilities and / or shelters as space permits.

#### **Staff**

Under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian, trained volunteers may assist in providing care in these medical shelters. Depending upon the extent of the disaster situation, volunteer veterinarians and technicians or Veterinary Medical Assistance Teams (VMAT) from the American Veterinary Medical Association may be requested to assist in the treatment of domestic and non-domestic animals.

- ❖ Appendix H – Veterinary Resources
- ❖ Appendix I – Volunteer Resources

#### ***Steps For Providing Medical Assistance For Animals:***

1. If animals that are the responsibility of the KCAS / NKAC are in need of medical care, transport them to participating private veterinary medical facilities. (See Appendix H)
2. If these facilities / resources have become overwhelmed, the KCAS / NKAC should establish temporary animal medical treatment centers as needed.
3. Request assistance from veterinary professionals and trained volunteer resources to care for animals. (See Appendix H and Appendix I)
4. Notify pre-identified suppliers of veterinary medical resources to request delivery of needed supplies and resources.
5. Arrange for shelter of animals requiring treatment, giving consideration to separating animals that show symptoms of contagious disease.
6. Ensure that a tracking system is in place to reunite animals with their owners.



## KENTON COUNTY EOP – INCIDENT SPECIFIC PLAN

# ANIMAL DISASTER RESPONSE PLAN

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### Bites / Disease Control

In the event of a bite or scratch to a person by an animal with unknown rabies status, measures will be in place to quarantine the animal according to the KyDPH guidelines. People who have been bitten or scratched should be directed to their private physicians for treatment (or in a temporary shelter situation be cared for by medical personnel at the site).

## **RECOVERY**

### Reunification Of Stray / Lost Animals With Owners

KCAS will support efforts to identify owners of stray / lost animals. If owners cannot be found, disposition of animals that cannot be placed in adoptive care or sold will be handled in accordance with established animal control guidelines. The animal control guidelines regarding holding periods may need to be extended to provide time to locate owners during a time of disaster.

### Disposal Of Animal Carcasses

Disposal of deceased animals will be coordinated by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture ([KRS 257.160](#)), in cooperation with the NKHD.

### **Livestock Or Cattle Farm Planning Recommendations**

Each livestock producer or owner should have a disaster plan that consists of the following:

- a. Equipment to move dead animals
- b. Identify on site designated land for burial
- c. Determine a contact person with Kentucky State University Extension or USDA County Emergency Board to report damages and request assistance and/or indemnity

### **County-Wide Plan**

- a. Identify all premises containing large populations of animals
- b. Identify local animal response team member for overseeing dead animal emergencies
- c. Identify commercial clean out crews (people to remove dead animals and wet / destroyed bedding material)
- d. Identify equipment for handling / hauling dead animals
- e. Make arrangements with other counties or solid waste disposal facilities for resources and land space



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**Carcass Disposal Methods** (Subject to change during an infectious disease outbreak and or P.A. 239)

- a. Rendering
- b. Landfill
- c. On-site composting
- d. Burial
- e. Incineration

### **REVIEW AND UPDATE**

On a regular basis, this procedure will be reviewed and updated as appropriate by the KCAS / NKAC, KCHSEM, and other affected agencies. This procedure will be periodically tested by an appropriate exercise method.

Effective Date: June 3, 2011

Updated: September 16, 2020 (format changed to match other plans, updated various agency names)



# KENTON COUNTY EOP – INCIDENT SPECIFIC PLAN

## ANIMAL DISASTER RESPONSE PLAN

### **APPROVAL – COUNTY ANIMAL RESPONSE TEAM**

The signatures below indicate these individuals have the authority to commit resources of their agency and agree to the functions and tasks prescribed for this plan.

(Signature)	(Printed Name)	(Date)
Kenton County Homeland Security Emergency Management		

(Signature)	(Printed Name)	(Date)
Kenton County Animal Services		

(Signature)	(Printed Name)	(Date)
Northern Kentucky Health Department		

(Signature)	(Printed Name)	(Date)
University Of Kentucky Extension Service		

(Signature)	(Printed Name)	(Date)
KY Department Of Agriculture – Division Of Animal Health		

(Signature)	(Printed Name)	(Date)
Private Veterinarian Representative		

(Signature)	(Printed Name)	(Date)
Northern Kentucky Animal Control		

(Signature)	(Printed Name)	(Date)
American Red Cross Representative		

**\* Approval list should include all members of the County Animal Response Team**



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### **APPENDIX A - PUBLIC EDUCATION MESSAGES**

#### **Domestic Pets**

- If you evacuate your home, DO NOT LEAVE YOUR PETS BEHIND. Pets cannot survive on their own and you may not be able to find them when you return.
- For public health reasons, many emergency shelters cannot accept pets. Find out which motels and hotels in your area allow pets in a disaster (See Appendix D).
- Include your local animal shelter's phone number in your list of emergency numbers. They will be able to provide information concerning pets during a disaster.
- Make sure identification tags are up-to-date and securely fastened to your pet's collar. If possible, attach the address and/or phone number of your evacuation site or an out-of-area emergency contact. Microchipping is recommended as a permanent form of identification. Have a current photo of you and your pet or microchip information for identification purposes.
- For pets requiring licenses, have proof of a current license.
- Have a copy of your pet's medical records, including vaccination status, and place one in your vehicle. If you are unable to return to your home right away, you may need to board your pet. Most boarding kennels, veterinarians, and animal shelters require that your pet's vaccinations be current.
- If you cannot take your pet with you to a temporary shelter, contact friends, family, veterinarians, or boarding kennels to arrange for care. Make sure medical and feeding information, food, medicine and other supplies accompany your pet to its temporary home.

#### Suggested supplies for an animal disaster kit:

- A secure, portable pet carrier
- Collar (with current identification tag) and leash or harness
- Pet food (nonperishable) and a can opener if necessary
- Bottled water
- Pet waste clean-up supplies and a small litter box and litter for cats
- Your pets updated medical records
- Important phone numbers such as veterinarians, kennels, emergency clinics, and hotels/motels which accept pets
- Medications your pets may require
- A recent photo of you and your pet

#### **Equine, Cattle, And Other Livestock**

Attempt to shelter equine, cattle, and other livestock in place if possible, or evacuate if necessary. Evacuation routes, including alternates, should be pre-determined. The evacuation sites should already have (or be able to readily obtain) food, water, veterinary



## KENTON COUNTY EOP – INCIDENT SPECIFIC PLAN

# ANIMAL DISASTER RESPONSE PLAN

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care, handling equipment and containment facilities. If evacuation is not possible, a decision must be made whether to move large animals to an available on-site shelter or turn them outside. This decision should be determined based on the type of disaster and the soundness and location of the shelter. Food and water should be available for the animals whether they are left in a shelter or outdoors. All animals should have some form of identification that will help facilitate their return.

### Wildlife

Never attempt to capture a non-domestic animal unless you have the training, protective clothing, restraint equipment and caging necessary to perform the job. During natural disasters, mosquitoes and dead animal carcasses can be sources of disease and outbreaks of zoonotic diseases may occur. Contact your local emergency management office or KyDFWR office for help.

### Further Assistance

If you see an injured or stranded animal in need of assistance, or if you have any other questions or concerns about animal protection during a disaster situation, contact Kenton County HSEM or the Northern Kentucky Health Department.



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## ANIMAL DISASTER RESPONSE PLAN

### APPENDIX B - ANIMAL CARE RESOURCES (FEED, BEDDING, AND CONFINEMENT)

Consider the following businesses for obtaining these resources:

- Pet supply stores
- Tack shops
- Feed elevators
- Farm equipment supply stores
- Hardware stores
- Grocery stores
- Pharmaceutical and medical supply companies or distributors

Large private farms may also have needed resources.

These suppliers should be contacted in advance of an incident and pertinent information should be periodically updated. Make copies of this sheet to accommodate all information.

The following businesses are examples of potential animal care resources:

Business Name: PetSmart Charities

Business Address: Emergency Relief Waggin' trailers @ various PetSmart locations throughout the US

Phone number: 1-800-423-7387

Supplies available: Care for up to 500 pets (crates, bowls, leashes and collars, litter, food, tents, fans, a generator and other emergency related items)

Business Name: Code 3 Associates

Business Address: 1530 Skyway Drive, Longmont, CO 80504

Contact person (owner/manager): Kurt Cruickshank

Phone number: 303-772-7724

Supplies available: Animal Rescue Team - A team of professionally trained men and women who are able to respond to all types of natural and manmade disasters providing additional resources to those affected areas

Business Name: Southern States Coop

Business Address: 2 South Jefferson Street, Alexandria, KY 41001

Contact person (owner/manager): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: 859-635-2104



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Supplies available: Source for agricultural and farm supplies

Business Name: K & M Farm Supply

Business Address: 9302 Alexandria Pike, Alexandria, KY 41001

Contact person (owner/manager): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: 859-448-0101

Supplies available: Animal Feed and supplies

Business Name: Tractor Supply Company

Business Address: 7910 Alexandria Pike, Alexandria, KY 41001

Contact person (owner/manager): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: 859-448-0936

Supplies available: Animal Feed and supplies

Business Name: Jack's Pets and Aquarium

Business Address: 325 Crossroads, Cold Spring, KY 41076

Contact person (owner/manager): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: 859-442-0201

Supplies available: Pet food and supplies



# KENTON COUNTY EOP – INCIDENT SPECIFIC PLAN ANIMAL DISASTER RESPONSE PLAN

## APPENDIX C - ANIMAL HOLDING AREAS FOR KENTON COUNTY

### Livestock Care And Holding Facilities

Owners should attempt to shelter animals in place if possible, but should consider the following alternatives for housing livestock if necessary:

- County fair locations in Kenton and adjacent counties
- Livestock auction facilities
- University farms
- Licensed riding stables and animal shelters
- State or Federal land (KyDNR)
- Private farms

Owners should also identify resources for erecting temporary facilities with items such as tents, portable stalls, and gates.

Use the following template to create a list of available facilities to use:

Facility Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Facility Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name (owner/manager): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers: Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Species which can be accommodated and capacity:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Facility Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Facility Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name (owner/manager): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers: Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Species which can be accommodated and capacity:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# KENTON COUNTY EOP – INCIDENT SPECIFIC PLAN

## ANIMAL DISASTER RESPONSE PLAN

### Companion Animal Holding Facilities

Consider the following types of businesses and facilities for housing companion animals:

- Private veterinary hospitals / kennels
- Registered animal shelters (county run and private, non-profit)
- County fairgrounds

Shelters which specialize in caring for exotic species should also be identified.

Owners should also identify resources for erecting temporary facilities with items such as tents, portable pens, and cages.

The following businesses are examples of potential holding facility resources:

**Captain Dog Kennels** - 3489 Fender Road, Melbourne, KY 41059

Contact Name (owner/manager): Duvall

Phone numbers: Office: 859-448-0058 Cell: 859-240-0489 Home: 859-448-9174

Species which can be accommodated and capacity: Dogs - Capacity Not Known

**Robinwood Kennel** - 102 Robin Lane, Highland Heights, KY 41076

Contact Name (owner/manager): Joe Pitzer

Phone numbers: Office: 859-781-2352 Cell: 859-802-7544 Home: 859-441-0519

Species which can be accommodated and capacity: Dogs and cats - Capacity: 42

**Kenton County Animal Shelter** - 1989 Poplar Ridge Road, Melbourne, KY 41059

Contact Name (owner/manager): Lisa Bowman

Phone numbers: Office: 859-635-2819 Cell: 859-991-2322 Home: 859-694-1762

Species which can be accommodated and capacity: Dogs and Cats \*\*Can Set up temporary shelters and tents in the neighboring field

**Sundance Pet Resorts** - 5100 Oliver Road, Independence, KY 41051

Contact Name (owner/manager): Deanna Scott

Phone numbers: Office: 859-356-7900 Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: 859-356-9784

Species which can be accommodated and capacity:

**Highland Heights Animal Hospital-Pet Wow** - 2717 Alexandria Pike, Highland Heights, KY 41076

Contact Name (owner/manager): Aaron Stamper

Phone numbers: Office: 859-781-2577 Cell: 859-393-0317 Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Species which can be accommodated and capacity: Dogs and Cats, Capacity Unknown



# KENTON COUNTY EOP – INCIDENT SPECIFIC PLAN

## ANIMAL DISASTER RESPONSE PLAN

### APPENDIX D – HOTELS / MOTELS ACCEPTING ANIMALS

This is a list of hotels / motels that accept pets in the Kenton County Area, but is subject to change at any time. (Note: Some hotels and motels will ease pet restrictions during an emergency situation.)

**Comfort Inn** - 640 Donaldson Road, Erlanger, KY 41018

Phone number: 859-727-3400

Number of rooms: \_\_\_\_\_

Types of animal allowed and fees: \$10 per pet per night

**Motel 6** - 7937 Dream Street, Florence, KY 41042

Phone number: 859-283-0909

Number of rooms: \_\_\_\_\_

Types of animal allowed and fees:

**Super 8 Motel-Florence** - 7928 Dream Street, Florence, KY 41042

Phone number: 859-289-1221

Number of rooms: 92

Types of animal allowed and fees: Any pets - \$5 fee per pet per stay

**Holiday Inn Express Cincinnati West** - 6500 Hern Road, Cincinnati, OH 45248

Phone number: 800-543-3018

Number of rooms: 197

Types of animal allowed and fees: Any pets - \$10 per stay pet fee

**Millenium Hotel Cincinnati** - 141 West 6th Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202

Phone number: 513-352-2100

Number of rooms: 412

Types of animal allowed and fees: Allows pets up to 100 pounds; Pets cannot stay in rooms - must be kenneled; One pet per room unless both are small; \$35 per stay pet fee for each pet

**Residence Inn by Marriott Cincinnati** - 506 East 4th Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202

Phone number: 513-651-1234

Number of rooms: 134

Types of animal allowed and fees: Dogs and cats, \$100 per stay pet fee



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### ANIMAL DISASTER RESPONSE PLAN

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**The Westin Hotel Cincinnati** - 21 East 5th Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202

Phone number: 513-621-7700

Number of rooms: 450

Types of animal allowed and fees: Allows dogs up to 40 pounds; Up to 2 pets per room; Dogs must not be left unattended; No pet fee

**Best Western Motel Clermont Cincinnati** - 4004 Williams Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45255

Phone number: 513-528-7702

Number of rooms: 96 rooms, no elevator

Types of animal allowed and fees: Up to 35 pounds, \$20 per stay pet fee

**Days Inn East Cincinnati** - 4056 Mount Carmel-Tobasco Road, Cincinnati, OH 45255

Phone number: 513-528-3800

Number of rooms: 93

Types of animal allowed and fees: Dogs and cats, \$10 per night for each pet

**Hampton Inn Eastgate Cincinnati** - 858 Eastgate North Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45245

Phone number: 513-752-8584

Number of rooms: 120

Types of animal allowed and fees: Any pets, no pet fee

**Holiday Inn I-275 Eastgate Cincinnati** - 4501 Eastgate Blvd., Cincinnati, OH 45245

Phone number: 513-752-4400

Number of rooms: 241

Types of animal allowed and fees: Pets up to 25 pounds; Must be in a crate when left unattended; No pet fee

**Clarion Inn and Suites Cincinnati** - 8870 Governors Hill Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45249

Phone number: 513-683-3086

Number of rooms: 68

Types of animal allowed and fees: \$25 per stay pet fee

**Towneplace Suites by Marriott Northeast Cincinnati** - 9369 Waterstone Blvd., Cincinnati, OH 45249

Phone number: 513-774-0610

Number of rooms: 94

Types of animal allowed and fees: Any pets, \$100 non-refundable per stay pet fee, 2 pets per room



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## ANIMAL DISASTER RESPONSE PLAN

### APPENDIX E - ANIMAL TRANSPORTATION RESOURCES

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture licenses livestock haulers. A list of licensed livestock haulers can be obtained by contacting 502-564-3956. In the event of an incident, additional resources may be needed.

Use the following template to create a list of available Licensed Livestock Haulers to use:

Livestock Hauler Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name (owner/manager): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers: Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Type(s) of vehicle(s) / Animal species hauled / Capacity:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Livestock Hauler Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name (owner/manager): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers: Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Type(s) of vehicle(s) / Animal species hauled / Capacity:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Livestock Hauler Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name (owner/manager): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers: Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Type(s) of vehicle(s) / Animal species hauled / Capacity:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



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This is a list of non-licensed haulers in the Kenton County Area, but is subject to change at any time:

Livestock Hauler Name: Alan Ahrman

Address: 708 Kenton Station Road, Alexandria, KY

Phone numbers: Cell: 859-322-0539 Home: 859-635-5674 Alt: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Care Experience: Beef cattle producer, Animal care, Cattle handling

Livestock Hauler Name: Tom Hounshell

Address: 741 Losey Road, Alexandria, Ky

Phone numbers: Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: 859- 635-2679 Alt: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Care Experience: Beef cattle producer, Animal care, Cattle handling

Livestock Hauler Name: Steve Martin

Address: 11806 Wesley Chapel Road, California, KY

Phone numbers: Cell: 859-322-6642 Home: 859-635-5919 Alt: 859-635-5900

Animal Care Experience: Beef cattle producer, Animal care, Cattle handling

Livestock Hauler Name: Ron McCormick

Address: 10180 AA Highway California, KY

Phone numbers: Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: 859-635-2745 Alt: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Care Experience: Beef cattle producer, Animal care, Cattle handling



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## APPENDIX F - GUIDELINES FOR HANDLING HORSE AND CATTLE DURING EMERGENCIES

### Guidelines For Horses During Emergencies

*Adapted from the "American Veterinary Medicine Association - Disaster Preparedness and Response Guide"*

Free roaming horses will naturally group together and move as a group. Many horses will allow themselves to be caught, especially if they are encouraged with grain. Catching a horse can be done by first placing a rope loosely around its neck, and then fitting on a halter. If a large group of horses avoid capture, they should be rounded up in small groups and corralled into smaller confinements. If the horses cannot be rounded up and have not suffered any obvious injuries, they may be kept fenced in and fed without further human contact.

When moving horses into an unfamiliar environment, the handler should allow them time to investigate their new surroundings. Not all horses are familiar with being tied to a stationary object. If horses must be tied, use a quick release knot. Many horses have only been kept in wooden fenced paddocks. If wire fencing is all that is available, tie 2" x 24" cloth strips to the top wire every 6 to 10 feet.

#### **Identification**

Many horses are permanently identified with a tattoo on the inside of their upper lip, freeze brands under the mane, and brands on the outsides of their hind limbs. These are helpful in recording the identification on a horse. Other methods for identification that can be used include neck banding, microchip injection, painting or etching the hooves, and describing all whorls of the horses' coats. Photographs of the right and left sides of the body, medial and lateral aspects of the lower legs, and the face of a horse are helpful in matching owners' descriptions when trying to locate misplaced animals.

#### **Behavior**

Most horses are familiar with people and are used to being handled. Horses will seek to establish hierarchy when first grouped together. If this occurs under confined conditions, horses may become violent resulting in serious injuries to each other and to people handling them. Horses show signs of aggression toward people by pinning their ears back, extending their necks to bite, or turning their rear quarters toward an approaching person. Special care should be taken to avoid standing between mares and their foals, and when handling stallions (adult un-castrated males).

Ideally, horses should be kept in small herds at pasture or in individual stalls. If this is not possible, allow horses plenty of room to reduce aggression. Never place two or more stallions together. If at all possible, observe horses for the first few hours after placing together in a herd.

#### **Methods Of Restraint**

Horses can be dangerous. Restraint and handling of horses should be done by people with equine experience. Most horses will cooperate once they have a halter and lead rope on. If sedation is required for restraint, authorized personnel must perform the



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sedation. Injured horses should not be worked on until they are fully sedated. This usually takes 5 - 10 minutes after intravenous injection. Sedated horses may still kick if abrupt movements or sounds startle them.

### Health Concerns

Dietary changes predispose horses to colic, laminitis, and hyperlipemia. Mixing of horses from various sources predisposes them to contagious respiratory disease. Vaccinating all horses against Equine Herpes Virus, Equine Influenza, Eastern and Western Equine Encephalitis, Tetanus, and West Nile Virus, can minimize the spread of contagious diseases. Any horse that will be spending more than a few days grazing on shared pasture should be de-wormed with a paste de-wormer. A fly spray or insect repellent approved for use on horses should be applied to them to decrease the spread of vector-borne diseases.

### Typical Weights And Heights

Horses are measured in "hands," one hand being equal to 4 inches. Horse's heights are measured at the highest point of the shoulder (withers). Typical weights and sizes of horses are:

	<u>Adult weight (#)</u>	<u>Newborn weight (#)</u>	<u>Approx. Height</u>
• <b>Giant Breeds</b>	1,500 – 2,000	150 – 200	17+ hands
• <b>Full Size</b>	750 – 1,200	75 – 100	15 – 17 hands
• <b>Pony</b>	500 – 750	50 – 75	< 15 hands
• <b>Miniature</b>	200 – 400	20 – 40	< 40 inches

### Typical Feeding Requirements Of Horses

Ideally, horses should be fed individually or in small groups. They should be fed twice a day at regular intervals. If horses are fed in groups, the most aggressive ones should be fed first. If that is not possible, observe horses at feeding time to ensure that all horses allow each other access to feed and water.

Under resting conditions and when ambient temperatures are above 40°F, horses should consume about 2% of their body weight per day in dry matter. About 75% of this should be derived from forages (hay) and 25% from grain. 12% protein horse pellets and sweet feed are the preferred grains.

Total feed intake depends on body size. For example, a 1,000 lb horse will require 7.5 lb (approximately 1/5 of a rectangular bale) of hay and 2.5 lb of grain at each feeding. This amount should be fed in the morning and in the evening.

Horses require about 2% of their body weight in fresh water per day, and 1 – 2 oz of loose salt.

All of the feeding requirements should be doubled for lactating mares, and increased if ambient temperatures fall below 40°F.

To estimate the amount of feed required for a horse herd, calculate the biomass of the horses by estimating the approximate weight of all the horses and adding the weights



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together. Multiply this figure by the feed requirements listed above to calculate the amount of hay, grain, water, and salt needed for the herd.

### **Sheltering And Housing**

Ideally, horses should be kept in small herds at pasture or in individual stalls. The amount of bedding required depends on the type of flooring. Porous flooring with plenty of lime mixed into it requires the least additional bedding. Concrete flooring requires the most. The approximate amount of bedding that will be required is one bale of straw per 12' x 12' stall.

Straw is the preferred bedding under emergency conditions, as it is likely to be available, is space efficient, and is most degradable. Alternatively, 2 bales per stall of conifer wood shavings or shredded newspapers can be used. Black walnut and exotic wood shavings **cannot** be used.

Fencing materials that are free of projections should surround paddocks for horses. Barbed wire is not suitable for fencing horses. Electric wire fencing can be used, but it must be made visible to horses by attaching 2" x 24" strips of cloth every 6 to 10 feet.

### **Sanitation**

Horses will produce about 0.5% of their body weight of manure per day. Manure should be removed from stalls at least once a day. Manure from horses on pasture should be collected once per week if possible. Manure should be stacked in neat piles, with minimal surface area, to promote composting and reduce fly hatching. To further reduce fly burdens, the manure pile can be sprayed every 3 days with fly spray.

Horses void about 0.5% of their body weight as urine each day. Urine is a major attractant to stable flies. Completely remove the stall bedding at least every third day to reduce fly problems.

The total amount of manure and bedding that will accumulate can be calculated from the number of horses, the average amount of manure produced, plus the number of straw bales used. Manure piles should be located at least 200 yards from the stabling facilities.

### **Zoonoses**

Zoonoses are diseases which can be transmitted from animals to people and from people to animals. Salmonella is endemic in many horse populations. Stressed horses, such as those surviving a major disaster, are most likely to suffer from clinical salmonellosis and develop fulminant diarrhea. Horses that develop diarrhea may have a guarded to poor prognosis and are a potential source of infection to other horses and personnel. For these reasons, serious consideration should be given to euthanasia, especially if the horse can only be maintained by compromising the level of care to other horses.

### **Euthanasia And Disposal**

Disposal must be considered prior to euthanasia. If at all possible, it is easiest to walk the horse to the site where the carcass will be buried, rather than transport dead horses to a disposal site. Euthanasia will be done under supervision of qualified personnel. Records will be kept of all dead horses.



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### Guidelines For Cattle During Emergencies

Cattle are grazers and browsers by nature and are easily adaptable to new environments. They are gregarious animals that follow herd instincts, but may be excited and frightened by new persons, predators, and dogs in their midst. Because of their gregarious nature, individual cows become anxious in situations that lead to their isolation from the herd. They have keen eyesight and hearing and can detect something unusual at distances of several hundred yards.

#### **Behavior During The Disaster Event**

Cattle normally will move away from fire and flood, but in an excited state they may actually move into such a disaster. Herding and driving cattle during a disaster is made more difficult because their herding instinct is overridden by survival reaction. Injuries, especially to the younger animals, are much more probable during a disaster.

#### **Behavior During The Immediate Aftermath**

Most cattle, if given hay, water, and a space to stand or lie down, will acclimate well in their new surroundings. The more antisocial animals, especially bulls, may not become content as quickly and may attempt to escape.

There is also a problem with establishment of social dominance within a group if new numbers are added. This is particularly true with bulls, and though cows usually settle down soon, the bulls may continue the struggle for dominance for a protracted period.

Bulls are dangerous – they should be penned separately and handled only by people with experience.

#### **Capture, Containment And Restraint**

Dairy cattle are used to caretakers, are socialized to human beings, and are easily penned. Beef cattle commonly are fed hay and grain in or around a barn or corral, which can aid in penning. If a pre-existing structure is not in place, a temporary corral can be built with portable gate panels. Avoid barbed wire and woven wire fencing because of the danger of injury to excited animals and animals unfamiliar with fences.

Portable corrals may be used to create make-shift runways and chutes for restraint. To load cattle into a trailer, portable gate panels can be made progressively smaller from the corral into a narrow alley, which ends at the truck. Avoid creating tight turns and have a way of blocking the entrance of the alleyway so that animals cannot back up into the corral rather than go forward to the truck.

The most common and available method of restraint is the lariat and halter. This restraint is dependent on having something to which the animal can be secured. For particularly fractious animals, application of a nose lead in combination with a rope halter provides additional distractions and approved restraint.

The most desirable restraint device is the portable cattle chute with a head restraint.

Diagnosis and treatment of ill or injured animals is much easier and safer with this restraint equipment. Tranquilization or sedation of injured animals may be necessary, and must be done under supervision of qualified personnel.



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If evacuation from the home premise is necessary, bumper-pull or fifth wheel type stock trailers, with a recommended length of 12' or longer should be used. The low bed with a low center of gravity allows easier loading and unloading and is more stable in winds and water.

### **Animal Identification Methods**

Permanent identification of dairy cattle is usually numerical by means of an ear tag, ear tattoo, brand, microchip, or numbered neck chain. Animals may be temporarily identified through use of livestock marking crayons. All cattle are required to be officially identified prior to leaving a premise in Kentucky. Contact the Kentucky Department of Agriculture's Animal Industry Division with specific questions about official ID.

### **Typical Weights**

Dairy Cattle – Holsteins are the largest and most common of the 5 major breeds of dairy cattle. Holsteins are black and white and cows that weigh an average of 1,500 lbs., but mature bulls can tip the scales at more than a ton. Jersey dairy cattle are the smallest, with mature cows weighing approximately 1,000 lb. and bulls near 1,500 lb. Weigh tapes for measuring heart girth provide a fairly accurate estimate of weight in dairy cattle.

Beef Cattle – There are wide variations among and within beef breeds. Weights can range from an 850 lb. British crossbred female to 2,500 lb. Charolais male. A weight tape for beef cattle, which measures heart girth, is fairly accurate.

### **Nutritional Requirements**

Cattle are grazing animals and can be maintained adequately on a variety of grasses on pasture. Care should be taken in selecting the site to pen cattle because ornamental plants may be appealing to hungry ruminants, but can be very toxic if consumed by cattle.

Beef cattle and yearling cattle require only grass hay and water for survival. Calves less than 3 months old require milk or milk replacer along with grass hay.

Lactating dairy cattle have different needs. Some important feeding recommendations for lactating dairy cows during a disaster situation are discussed here. The first priority is to provide feed to keep the cows healthy; providing feeds which support milk production is secondary. Hay is the best feed choice to keep the cows healthy. Provide all the hay the cows will consume. An individual mature dairy cow will consume about 30-40 pounds of hay. Younger dairy cattle (heifers) will consume about 15-20 pounds per day per animal. Hay quality is not highly important, although the hay should be clean and not moldy. Small square bales or large round or square bales may be used and can be placed on the ground if feed bunks or bale feeders are not available. Spread the hay around the paddock so that all cows have access to the hay. Hay silage can be fed if dry hay is not available. Corn silage should not be the first choice since it contains grain, which can make cows sick if they consume too much.

Water is very important and must be provided. A dairy cow will need about 25-30 gallons of water per day. Some type of large water trough will be needed for the cows to drink from.



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Milk production in dairy cattle will increase or decrease according to nutrient intake. Grass hay can be fed to dairy cattle for several days and they will suffer only temporary milk production loss when put back on their full production level ration. By reducing the caloric intake, a cow will reduce its milk production. Decrease in milk production may not be rapid enough to prevent mastitis. If the disaster causes electric power outages or cattle are moved to a location without milking facilities, milking even a small number of cows becomes an unrewarding and difficult task. However, having portable milkers and generators or pre-determined evacuation sites with milking equipment available, is an important planning consideration for dairy producers.

### **Providing Safe Drinking Water For Animals**

Because contaminated water may contain pathogenic organisms, treat it with chlorine to make it safer. Ideally, the water should be tested, but during a disaster this may not be possible. Treating water with sodium hypochlorite (household bleach) will be beneficial. The following treatments should be followed when treating water:

- 16 drops of bleach for 1 gallon of water
- 1 Tablespoon of bleach for 15 gallons of water
- ½ cup of bleach for 120 gallons of water

When treating water, use unscented bleach. Allow the water to stand for 30 minutes after treatment to allow the bleach to mix thoroughly with the water.

### **Health Concerns**

Disaster conditions that lead to the commingling of animals from various operations increase the risk of infectious disease. This can be caused by a multitude of enteric and respiratory pathogens. In light of the difficulty imposed by attempting individual treatment, mass medication may be considered for treatment and control of infection. Large ruminants are frequently affected with bloat, diarrhea, and pneumonia during prolonged unusual events. Prevention of most bloat and diarrhea can be accomplished through nutritional management. Pneumonia can be partially prevented through vaccination against respiratory pathogens and providing rest and fresh air during the disaster. Even the best managed cattle will contract some stress-related pneumonia and a treatment center should be set up for care of sick cattle.

Severe traumatic injuries will require individual examination and treatment. Lacerations and fractured bones may be detected in cattle during the aftermath of a disaster. The lacerations can be treated but fractures are difficult to manage in cattle and euthanasia may be required. Qualified personnel will conduct drug administration and pain management.

### **Housing And Sanitation**

Dairy cattle should be kept clean, dry and comfortable. If the disaster occurs during the hot and humid season, shade must be provided if it does not exist in the area of confinement. Avoid total enclosure, but shelter animals with shade cloth or plastic tarp from the extremes of heat or cold stress. Cattle should be moved with care if the ambient temperature exceeds 30°C (86°F) in order to avoid heat stress. The comfortable range



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in temperature for dairy cattle is between 41° and 78°F. Beef cattle requiring medical care might be housed in a confined area to expedite treatment, but healthy cattle do better in pastures or paddocks, and they tend to settle down quicker when put in an environment similar to where they had been maintained prior to the disaster. In addition, the open air will help disperse respiratory pathogens.

Provision for manure removal is important. Cattle excrete about 5% of their body weight in manure and urine daily. Straw should be used for bedding, when required, because it will be easier to obtain and dispose of during times of disaster.

### **Zoonoses Concerns**

Zoonoses are diseases which can be transmitted from animals to people and from people to animals. The greatest risks are from enteric pathogens such as salmonella, cryptosporidia, campylobacter, and giardia. Adult cattle maintained in questionable sanitary conditions can transfer these diseases without becoming clinically ill. Calves and yearlings will usually become sick and require treatment. Contaminated water can be a source of pathogens for the cattle, therefore caretakers should use caution when handling cattle with diarrhea and never consume water from an unapproved source.

### **Euthanasia And Disposal**

Disposal must be considered prior to euthanasia. If at all possible, it is easiest to herd the animals to the site where the carcass will be buried, rather than transport dead animals to a disposal site.

The recommended method of euthanasia is with an appropriate chemical injection. Euthanasia will be performed under the supervision of qualified personnel. Records will be kept of all dead animals.

Disposal of dead cattle can create a problem due to the potential health hazard and great volume of carcasses. Methods such as deep burial or burning can be done if local air and water quality regulations permit. Refer to Kentucky Compiled Laws Act 239, Public Acts 1982 - Bodies of Dead Animals and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture's Mass Carcass Disposal Plan for disposal requirements.

### Guidelines For Other Livestock During Emergencies

Information on handling, nutrition and transport of other livestock may be obtained from:

- Kentucky State University Department of Animal Science (502-597-5094)
- Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine - Large Animal Clinic (517-355-9593)
- Ky. Dept. of Agriculture - Office of the State Veterinarian (502-782-5901)
- Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association (502-226-5862)



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## APPENDIX G— EMERGENCY HOUSING AND CARE OF HOUSEHOLD PETS AND EXOTICS

### Background

For purposes of public shelter, "pets" are defined as "dogs, cats, service animals, and exotics such as small mammals, small reptiles and caged birds". Some exotic species of pets require highly specialized care and housing, and Kenton County Animal Services (KCAC) may be able to assist owners in finding alternative shelters for these animals. Many humane groups, animal shelters and rescue groups can provide trained care and housing for exotic species.

While the sheltering and protection of companion animals are the owners' responsibility, studies show that up to 60% of the population may refuse to evacuate without their animals. In addition, citizens with special needs (individuals with mental or physical challenges who require evacuation assistance) may require additional assistance in evacuating their pets. Therefore, in the interest of public safety, animal owners may be assisted in finding shelter and care for their animals during a public emergency.

Domestic pets of evacuated citizens may be sheltered at private boarding kennels and veterinary hospitals as close to the evacuation shelters as possible, or other facilities designated by the KCAC. Upon activation of evacuation shelters for citizens, KCAC may initiate the opening of temporary animal boarding facilities. A representative of KCAC will be assigned to evaluate the animal's health and condition, and assist in transporting pets to these shelters. They will also ensure that a tracking system is in place to identify the rightful owners of sheltered pets. All reasonable steps will be taken to prevent the spread of communicable and/or zoonotic diseases during this time.

Domestic animals that are lost, stray, incapable of being cared for by their owners, or a danger to themselves or the public will be the responsibility of KCAC / NKAC. These animals will be sheltered, fed and, if possible, returned to their owners. If the animals cannot be returned to their owners, their disposition will be handled in accordance with established animal control procedures.

### Behavior During The Disaster Event

Capturing pets during a disaster is made more difficult because the pet's normal behavior may be overridden by survival instincts. Injuries, especially to young animals, are much more likely during a disaster. In the event that animals cannot be rescued due to the disaster, food and water may be delivered to the animals by the appropriate agency when possible.

### Behavior During The Immediate Aftermath

Most pets, if given food, water and a cage in which they are able to stand or lie down, will acclimate well with their new surroundings. The more antisocial animals, especially cats, may be calmed by providing them with a box in which to hide inside the cage or by covering the cage with a towel or blanket.



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### Capture, Containment, And Restraint

Human life will not be risked to capture loose animals. However, many pets are socialized to human beings, and are easily caught. Offering food may allow capture of loose, hungry dogs and cats.

In many disasters, there is too much noise and commotion during the day, and displaced pets (especially cats) will stay hidden. Baited traps placed at night in the cat's home territory are very effective.

Dogs are not trapped as frequently as cats, as they tend to move around whereas cats are often found in their home territory. The most common and available method of dog restraint is the muzzle and leash.

Cats that can be caught may be subdued by wrapping tightly in a large heavy towel with only the head exposed. Slip nooses can be used with traumatized, aggressive animals.

Tranquilization or sedation of injured animals may be necessary. Tranquilization will be done under supervision of qualified personnel.

### Animal Identification Methods

Pet identification methods consist of microchips (shown to be most effective animal ID/tracking method during a disaster), collar and tags, or tattoos on the inside of the ear, the lip, or the inside of the hind leg. Every animal should have some form of identification on it when it comes into a designated shelter. Animals without prior identification may be temporarily identified by affixing an identifier to the animal. A corresponding numbered animal description sheet will be filled out on all animals entering a designated shelter.

### Nutritional Requirements

Qualified personnel will supervise dietary needs so that a nutritious and appropriate diet is provided for each species. Clean water should be provided daily at the rate of 1/2 gallon for average-sized dogs and 1 pint for cats. Because contaminated water may contain pathogenic organisms, chlorine may be used to make it safer. Sodium hypochlorite (household bleach) at the rate of 2 gallons per 100 gallons of water will be beneficial. Ideally, the water should be tested, but during a disaster, this may not be possible. Alternatively, bottled water may be used.

### Health Concerns

Disaster conditions that lead to commingling of animals from different locations increases the potential for spread of infectious disease. Some of the greatest risks to dogs and cats are canine parvovirus, canine distemper, feline infectious peritonitis, feline leukemia virus, feline panleukopenia, and internal and external parasites. Unvaccinated puppies and kittens will often become sick and require treatment. Even the best managed facility will contract some stress-related respiratory disease and a treatment center or separate area should be set up to care for sick pets.

Severe traumatic injuries will require individual examination and treatment. Lacerations and fractured bones are some of the injuries that may occur in a disaster. Qualified veterinary personnel will supervise treatment and pain management.



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#### Housing And Sanitation

Dogs, cats and other legal domestic companion animals will be housed at the animal shelter or other specialized shelters. Animals should be housed individually and separated by species and sex. Bedding should be provided when appropriate. Animal enclosures should be kept clean and dry.

Portable cages may be used to provide temporary shelter. Temporary dog runs may be created using chain link panels obtained from construction companies or businesses that rent temporary fencing. The chain link panels should be 6 to 8 feet long with no gap along the bottom.

Manure disposal will be in accordance with county and state regulations.

#### Zoonoses Concerns

Zoonoses are diseases which can be transmitted from animals to people and from people to animals. Some of the risks from domestic pets are internal and external parasites, leptospirosis (which can be shed in urine), enteric pathogens (such as cryptosporidia and giardia), and rabies. Careful handling and disposal of animal wastes is important. Contaminated water can be a source of pathogens, therefore caretakers should use caution in handling animals with diarrhea and never consume water from an unapproved source. Any animal bites should be reported and handled with the utmost of precaution by appropriate medical personnel.

#### Euthanasia And Disposal

The recommended method of euthanasia for dogs and cats is with an appropriate chemical injection or by other acceptable methods. Qualified personnel will perform euthanasia. Because of the mass injuries that can occur in a disaster, the volume of chemical euthanasia solution or other euthanasia compounds on hand may be exhausted early. Should this occur, acceptable alternate euthanasia methods will be used (see the American Veterinary Medical Association's Panel on Euthanasia report).

Records will be kept on all euthanized animals. Citizens who are missing an animal will have access to those records which may help identify their animal.

Animal carcasses will be disposed of according to established Animal Control procedures. Refer to Kentucky Compiled Laws Act 239, Public Acts 1982, - Bodies of Dead Animals and Kentucky Department of Agriculture's Mass Carcass Disposal Plan for disposal requirements.



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## APPENDIX H - VETERINARY RESOURCES

**Office of the Kentucky State Veterinarian - Robert C. Stout, DVM., Exec. Dir.**

**Address:** 100 Fair Oaks, 2nd Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601

**Clinic phone:** 502-564-3956      **Emergency phone:** 502-229-4407

**Species treated (check all that apply)**

\_X\_ Companion, \_X\_ Avian, \_Exotic, \_X\_ Equine, \_X\_ Livestock, \_X\_ Cervid, \_Other

### PRIVATE VETERINARIANS

**Heineke Animal Hospital - Barry Heineke**

**Address:** 5 Orlando Drive, Alexandria, KY 41001

**Clinic phone:** 859-635-3783      **Emergency phone:** 513-305-7809

**Species treated (check all that apply)**

\_X\_ Companion, \_X\_ Avian, \_X\_ Exotic, \_Equine, \_Livestock, \_Cervid, \_Other

**Highland Heights Animal Hospital – Pet Wow - Aaron Stamper**

**Address:** 2717 Alexandria Pike, Highland Heights, KY 41076

**Clinic phone:** 859-781-2577      **Emergency phone:** 859-393-0317

**Species treated (check all that apply)**

\_X\_ Companion, \_Avian, \_Exotic, \_Equine, \_Livestock, \_Cervid, \_Other

**Ft. Thomas Animal Hospital - Dr. Jean Pritchard, DVM**

**Address:** 1133 South Ft. Thomas Avenue, Ft. Thomas, KY 41075

**Clinic phone:** 859-781-7387      **Emergency phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Species treated (check all that apply)**

\_X\_ Companion, \_Avian, \_Exotic, \_Equine, \_Livestock, \_Cervid, \_Other

**Grants Lick Veterinary Hospital - J. C. Crowley, DVM**

**Address:** 13169 Alexandria Pike, Butler, KY 41006

**Clinic phone:** 859-635-4138      **Emergency phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Species treated (check all that apply)**

\_X\_ Companion, \_Avian, \_Exotic, \_X\_ Equine, \_X\_ Livestock, \_Cervid, \_Other



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### APPENDIX I – VOLUNTEER RESOURCES

*(Note: Emergency Management should seek and use volunteers who are animal care professionals and/or credentialed animal responders. The use of non-trained people may result in increased numbers of injuries, animal losses and animal mishandling, and should therefore be avoided)*

Name: Alan Ahrman

Address: 708 Kenton Station Road, Alexandria

Phone numbers: Cell: 859-322-0539 Home: 859-635-5674 Alt: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Care Experience: Beef cattle producer, animal care, and cattle handling

Name: Tom Hounshell

Address: 741 Losey Road, Alexandria

Phone numbers: Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: 859-635-2679 Alt.: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Care Experience: Beef cattle producer, animal care, and cattle handling

Name: Steve Martin

Address: 11806 Wesley Chapel Road, California

Phone numbers: Cell: 859-322-6642 Home: 859-635-5919 Alt.: 859-635-5900

Animal Care Experience: Beef cattle producer, animal care, and cattle handling

Name: Ron McCormick

Address: 10180 AA Highway California

Phone numbers: Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: 859-635-2745 Alt.: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Care Experience: Beef cattle producer, animal care, and cattle handling



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### APPENDIX J - COUNTY ANIMAL RESPONSE TEAM

#### **Kenton County Homeland Security Emergency Management Director**

Name: Steve Hensley

Address: 1840 Simon Kenton Way, Suite 2400, Covington, KY 41011

Phone: (Work) 859-392-1488 (Cell) 859-380-7540

E-mail Address: [steve.hensley@kentoncounty.org](mailto:steve.hensley@kentoncounty.org)

#### **Northern Kentucky Animal Control**

Name: Terri Baker

Address: 326 W. 9th, Newport, KY 41071

Phone: (Work) 859-468-6618 (Cell) 859-391-1234 (Home) 859-581-7635

E-mail Address: [bakertkb@fuse.net](mailto:bakertkb@fuse.net)

#### **State Veterinarian**

Name: Robert C. Stout, DVM

Address: 100 Fair Oaks, 2nd Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601

Phone: (Work) 502-564-3956 (Cell) 502-229-4407 (Home) 859-873-8825

E-mail Address: [robert.stout@ky.gov](mailto:robert.stout@ky.gov)

#### **University of Kentucky Extension Service**

Name: Don Sorrell

Address: 3500 Alexandria Pike, Highland Heights, KY 41076

Phone: (Work) 859-572-2600 (Cell) 859-250-6665

E-mail Address: [dsorrell@uky.edu](mailto:dsorrell@uky.edu)

#### **Northern Kentucky Independent Health District**

Name: Steve Divine, RS

Address: 610 Medical Village Drive, Edgewood, KY 41017

Phone: (Work) 859-341-4151 (Cell) 859-743-3372

E-mail Address: [steve.divine@nkyhealth.org](mailto:steve.divine@nkyhealth.org)



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### **Private Veterinarian**

Name: Dr. Barry Heineke

Address: 5 Orlando Drive, Alexandria, KY 41001

Phone: (Work) 859-635-3783 (Cell) 513-305-7809

E-mail Address: [doc6iron@hotmail.com](mailto:doc6iron@hotmail.com)

### **Kenton County Animal Shelter Representative**

Name: Dan Evans

Address: 1020 Mary Laidley Drive, Ft. Mitchell, KY 41017

Phone: (Work) 859-356-7400 (Cell) 859-393-4686

E-mail Address: [dan.evans@kentoncounty.org](mailto:dan.evans@kentoncounty.org)

### **Tri-State CART Representative**

Name: Bonnie Morrison, Executive Director

Address: PO Box 158, Harrison, OH 45030

Phone: (Work) 513-702-8373 (Cell) 513-604-5509

E-mail Address: [dancnfeet@hotmail.com](mailto:dancnfeet@hotmail.com) or [cartcaptain@gmail.com](mailto:cartcaptain@gmail.com)

### **American Red Cross Representative**

Name: Ron Hakes

Address: 2111 Dana Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45207

Phone: (Work) 513-579-3089 (Cell) 513-373-2941

E-mail Address: [hakesr@cincinnatiaredcross.org](mailto:hakesr@cincinnatiaredcross.org)



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### APPENDIX K – OTHER ANIMAL RESPONSE CONTACTS / ADVISORS (AS NEEDED) AND ANIMAL DISASTER RESPONSE TRAINING

#### **Kentucky Humane Society**

Offering animal disaster response training in conjunction with several national organizations.

For information: 1-866-MHUMANE (866-648-6263)

### APPENDIX L - WEB RESOURCES

Kentucky Humane Society: <http://www.kyhumane.org/>

The Humane Society of the United States: <http://www.humanesociety.org/>

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA):  
<http://www.aspca.org/>

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):  
<http://www.fema.gov/plan/prepare/animals.shtm>

American Red Cross:  
<http://www.redcross.org/portal/site/en/menuitem.53fabf6cc033f17a2b1ecfbf43181aa0/?vgnnextoid=a2fb94eeef052210VgnVCM10000089f0870aRCRD&currPage=499a94eeef052210VgnVCM10000089f0870aRCRD>