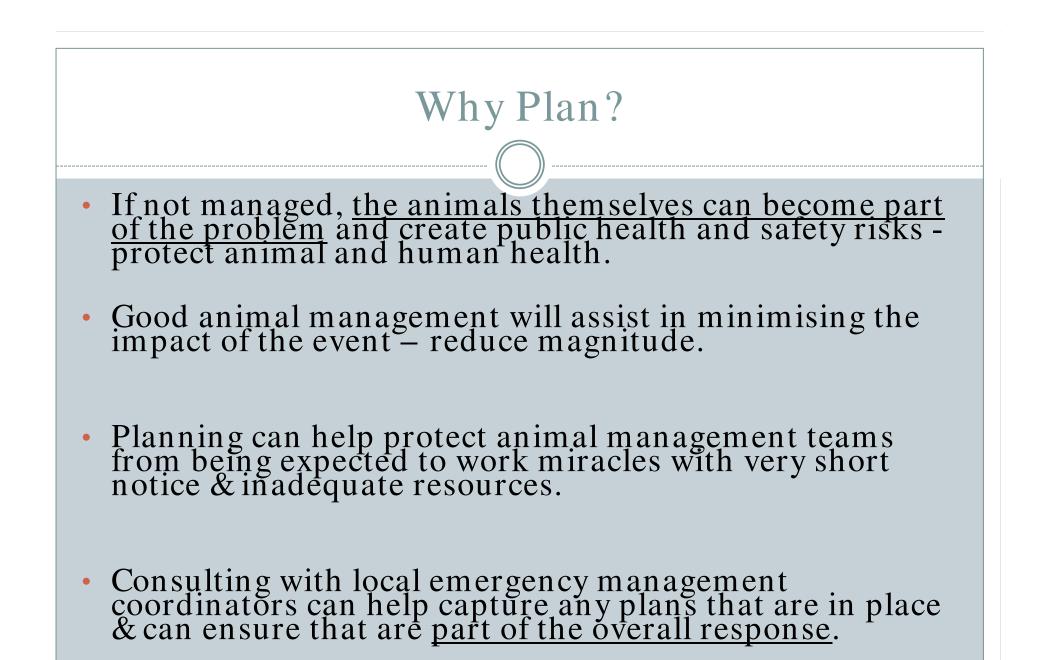
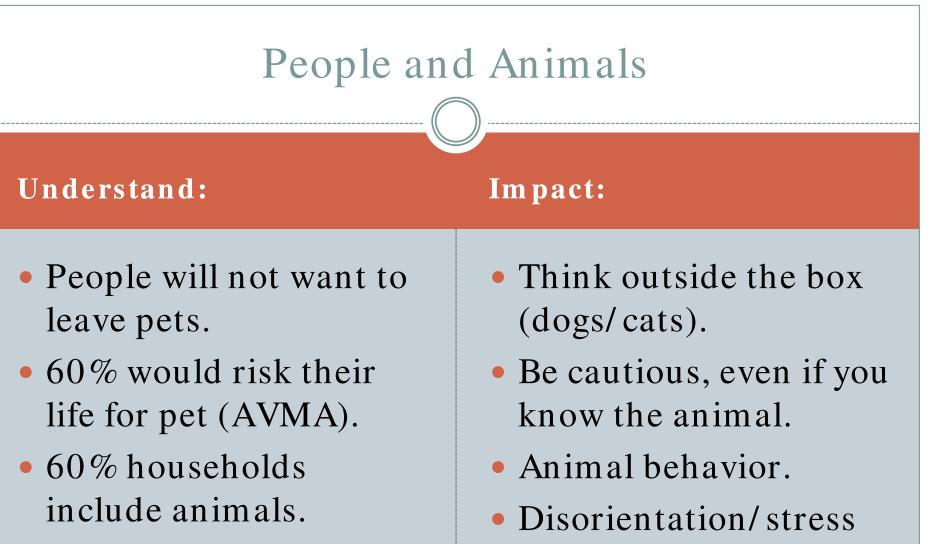
Animals in Disasters SUMMER WYATT WV STATE DIRECTOR - HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

How Did DART Start?

- After Hurricane Andrew struck Florida, in 1992, victims were distressed when they could not bring pets to public shelters.
- Some people are more concerned for their animals in disasters than they are for themselves. This may impair their ability to make sensible decisions about their own safety & that of rescue workers. Examples include: Evacuation failures & re-entry attempts, and unsafe rescue attempts.



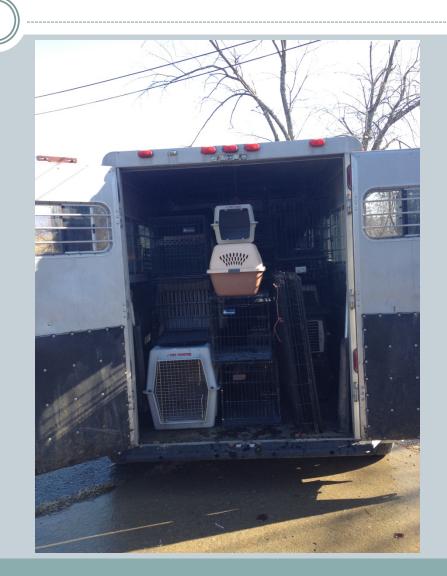




• Most have more than 1.

Disaster/Evacuation Planning

- Don't be complacent no one is immune.
- Animals take more time to evacuate/ plan for.
- Planning reduces stress & helps leave earlier.
- Planning preserves options and LIFE!
- Record keeping
- Potential media nightmare.



Options For Animals During Disasters

- Shelter in place
 - If owners are able
- Evacuate
 - Owners need plan & options for shelter
- Pet friendly shelter
 - "people" shelters allowing animals – owners care for own pets
- Emergency animal shelter
 - Volunteers care for pets



Why Pet Friendly Shelters are Needed

- Do not want separation.
- Some pets do better w/owners caring for them.
- Cannot afford cost of hotel/boarding.
- Cannot find a pet friendly hotel.
- No options w/ family/ friends.
- Should be last resort but may be only option.



Sheltering/Evacuating by Owners

Educating Pet Owners

- Preparedness kits for each pet:
 - Medications
 - Evacuation plan
 - Blankets & toys
 - Food & water for @ least 3 days
 - Crate(s)
 - Collar with tags should always be on animal(s)
 - Veterinary records
 - Other useful items

- Owners must have a plan!
 - Trailering/transport
 - Containment

Livestock Owners

- o Identification
- Veterinary records/paperwork
- Where can you go with your animals?
- Feed/water access

Livestock Disaster/Evacuation Plan Cont'd

 Evacuation – can prevent electrocution, dehydration, & barn collapse deaths

- Evacuate ASAP be ready
- Work to establish shelters for livestock fairgrounds, etc
- Identify evacuation routes
- Identify handlers and drivers
- Disaster kit (in central location, available to everyone)
 - Current listing of all animals (location, feeding info, etc)
 - Proof of ownership
 - Temporary ID supplies (neckbands, halters, markers)
 - First aid, flashlight, batteries, flares

Plan for Your Community

Including key stakeholders and allies, can help synchronise any processes and apply consistency.

Possible Partners

- Animal control representative
- Animal humane association representative
- Public veterinarians
- Private veterinarians
- Veterinary technicians
- Animal health regulatory agency representative
- Public works representatives
- Animal industry representatives
- Environmental representative
- County Extension agent
- Media communication representatives
- Elected official representative
- Emergency management coordinator representative

Create Local Animal Issues Committee or DART and Plan Submit to Local EM for approval

First Actions:

- Committee should advise local government authorities
- Lay out possible animal disasters in area
- Include Human Care Agencies

Disasters – the Expected & Unexpected

Man Made

Natural

- MOU
- Can/ will you assist local law enforcement?
- Hoarding
- Neglect
 - Livestock Domestic "pets"

- Flooding
- Earthquake
- Wildfire
- Blizzard
- Tornado
- Heat Wave

Additional Thoughts

• Options for animal care:

• Foster care program:

- × When shelter is closing but animals still need care.
- × Last resort & used w/ caution.
- × Thoroughly screened private homes.
- Temporary day care
 - Owners may be returning to retrieve belongings or working.
 - May be unable to leave pet where they are staying.

- Donation management!
- Off site storage?
- Control intake of supplies or it will control you!
- Set up drop off/pick up of food to those affected.
- Need a donation manager
 O Approves requests

Distribution plan for food/water/crates

How will contain distressed animals?

Proper skills/equipment to deal with a control distressed animals.

Knowing when NOT to respond & having a list of experts to contact.

Staying organized: signage, paperwork, ICS, protocol.



Continue Training Needs & Update Plans Often

Implementation

Educate public:

• The best plan is to evacuate with your pets to friends and/or family o Identify and promote pet friendly policies of Hotels and Motels during emergencies • Shelters are life boats, for both you

and/or your pets

- Step One: Establish Policy Guidelines
- Step Two: Develop Standard Operating Guides, Procedures, and Best Practices
- Step Three: Training & Implementation
- No one should be turned away from a shelter with pets

What Do You Need?

Facility:

Animal shelter/kennel

Pet shops

Vet clinics

Wildlife rehab center

Horse stable

Non porous/solid flooring, safety standards, free of obligations during emergencies – MOU. Team members!
Staffing & security.

• Training

- Florida SART
- FEMA
- American Humane
- o HSUS

• Supplies

- Trailer?
- Crates
- o Leashes
- Bowls food & water
- Cleaning supplies
- Hardware, tools, zip ties, duct tape.
- Signage & paperwork office equip
- Litter, trash cans & bags, first aid, blankets.

Interested in joining a "DART"?

DARTs & emergency trailers exist in some WV counties:

Jefferson

Ohio Valley

Preston

Hancock

WV DART in next 5 years??

National Disaster Prep Month Project?



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