

Sheltering Animals from the Storm



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Goals for Today

- Provide an update on NHDART's response capabilities.
- Familiarize you with planning & response resources for pets
- Recruit interested volunteers.

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What is NHDART

- The NH Disaster Animal Response Team is dedicated to improving and increasing NH's animal response capabilities.
- NH Department of Health & Human Services provides
 - Coordination
 - Support
 - Training
 - Equipment funding

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National Pet Population Trends

PET POPULATION	
2020	2016*
83,739,829 - 88,853,254 dogs	76,811,305 dogs
1.46 dogs per household	1.6 dogs per household
45% of households own dogs	38% of households own dogs
60,217,861 - 61,910,686 cats	58,385,725 cats
1.78 cats per household	1.8 cats per household
26% of households own cats	25% of households own cats

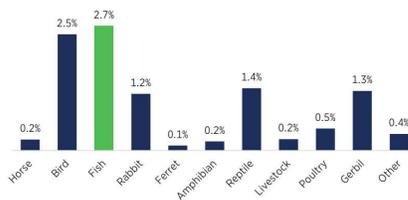
Source: 2022 AVMA Pet Ownership & Demographics Sourcebook

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Other Popular Pets

OTHER PETS

As with previous years, fish continue to be the third most popular pet (2.7%) behind dogs and cats, although 2016 had a much higher rate of ownership at 8.3%. Birds are not far behind at 2.5%. Pet ownership outside of dogs and cats consists of a small population so greater variability in the data is expected.



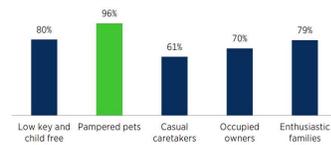
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Pets are Family

CARING FOR PETS

Each segment differs in how they care for pets. Pampered pets and enthusiastic families were the most likely to be highly involved in their pets' lives. This includes celebrating birthdays, holidays, talking to their pet daily, and dressing their pet in fashionable clothing and/or accessories. Casual caretakers have the lowest level of involvement, although 61% of respondents in this group consider their pets a family member.

DO YOU CONSIDER YOUR PET A FAMILY MEMBER?

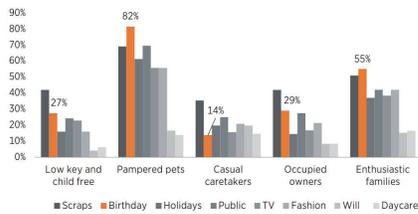


In the pampered pets segment, 96% of respondents consider their pet a family member, and 82% celebrate their pet's birthday.

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Pet Owner Behaviors

PET OWNER BEHAVIORS BY SEGMENT

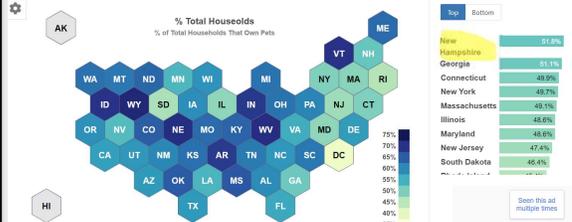


*Holidays refers to celebrating holidays with a pet, public refers to taking a pet out in public places, TV refers to leaving the TV on for a pet while away, and will refers to including a pet in one's will.

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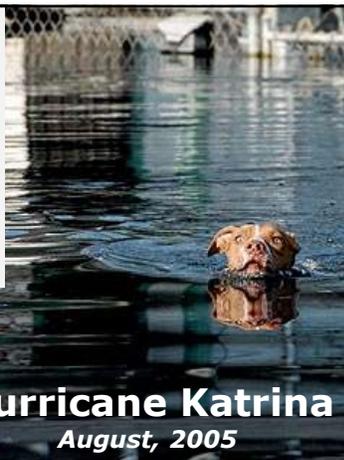
Pet Ownership by State

Pet Ownership Statistics by State (Updated May 2022)



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- Largest animal rescue operation in U.S. history.
- 1,800 + people died.
- Thousands of animals died.
- 15,000 animals rescued.
- 20% pets reunited.
- HSUS assisted with sheltering of more than 8,000 animals in LA and MS.
- Local and national animal groups raised \$70 million.



Hurricane Katrina
August, 2005

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Katrina Survey (Fritz Institute)

Nearly 1/3 (32%) of non-evacuees made the affirmative choice to stay behind for other reasons

- Not wanting to leave homes (82%).
- ⇒ **Not wanting to leave pets (44%).**
- Not wanting to leave relatives (18%).



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DHS Post-Katrina Assessment

"State and local evacuation plans should specify procedures to address the pre-positioning of food, medical and fuel supplies. These **plans should address** establishing first-aid stations, tracking and coordinating movements of evacuees, **evacuating pets**, unaccompanied minors, the elderly, and evacuating people who lack the means to leave voluntarily."

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DHS Post-Katrina Assessment

- **RECOMMENDATION:** Require state and **local governments** to develop, implement, and exercise emergency response plans and to be integrated with all federal evacuation activities, before state and local governments are able to receive DHS-funded grants

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FEDERAL AUTHORITY

Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act - October, 2006

Mandates local and state EM officials "take into account the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals prior to, during, and following a major disaster or emergency" when developing emergency preparedness operational plans

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FEMA's Definition of Household Pets

- Domesticated animals that:
 - Are traditionally kept in the home for pleasure rather than for commercial purposes;
 - Can travel in commercial carriers;
 - Can be housed in temporary facilities



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Excluded from FEMA's Household Pet Definition

- Reptiles (except turtles)
- Amphibians
- Insects
- Arachnids
- Farm Animals (including Horses)
- Animals kept for racing purposes



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FEMA's Definition of Service Animal



DOGS that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities or access and functional needs

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FEMA Definition of Assistance Animals



ANIMALS that work, provide assistance, or perform tasks for the benefit of a person with a disability (service animal), OR provide emotional support that alleviates identified symptoms or effects of a person's disability

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PETS Act Reimbursable Expenses: Evacuation & Transportation

- One-time transport to emergency shelters from pre-established pick-up points.
- Stand-by time for drivers and contracted equipment
- Tracking

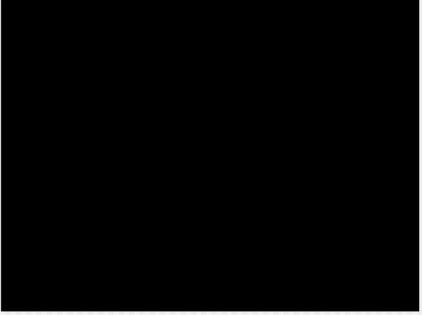
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PETS Act Reimbursable Expenses: **Sheltering**

- **Facility Costs**
- **Staff Costs**
 - Veterinary staff
- **Shelter Supplies**
 - Medicine for animal decontamination
 - Crates, cages, leashes, carriers
 - Animal cleaning tables and supplies
- **Shelter Services**
 - Cleaning shelter, linens and animal crates
 - Emergency veterinary services
 - Vaccinations for contagious diseases

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A Safe Place to Go



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Logistics: Setting It All Up

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Pre-planning Logistics

- **Transportation**
 - Refrigerated/air-conditioned vehicles for animal transport
 - Horse trailers
 - ATV to carry supplies
 - Lots of strong volunteers
- **Mutual Aid Agreements**

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Local Planning for Animals



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- Emergency evacuated shelter
- Host shelter
- **Pet Friendly shelter**
- Temporary animal shelter
- Single family housing (Pandemic)

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Animal Related Areas

- Animal intake
- Animal housing
- Initial assessment
- Veterinary treatment
- Supplies & medicine
- Food preparation
- Decontamination
- Grooming & bathing
- Cleaning station
- Bulk storage (ex: food, water, litter, spare crates, leashes, etc.)
- Walking/exercise area
- Dog relief area

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Animal Housing Areas

Companion Animals

- Healthy dogs
- Isolation dogs
- Healthy cats
- Isolation cats
- Caged birds
- Rabbits/Pocket pets
- Reptiles (turtles)
- Ferrets

Livestock/Horses

- Cows
- Goats & sheep
- Poultry
- Ratites (*Emus, Ostriches*)
- Pigs (*potbelly & hogs*)
- Horses (*separate stallions individually; pregnant mares & mares w/foals*)
- Horse with unknown Coggins status

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Physical environment appropriate for animals:

- Weather/season of the year
- Indoor temperatures match animal needs
- Type of caging

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CAUTION
AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY

ISOLATION WARD

WEAR BOOTIES! REQUIRED INSIDE

TEAM LEADERS ONLY!

Provisions for quarantine, bite cases, special handling and/or security

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Human Related Areas

- First aid station
- Bathroom/shower facilities
- Housing
- Canteen
- Staff/volunteer break area
- Administration
- Communications
- Incident command / planning
- Public information officer (PIO) / media
- Public access and information (*lost & found, volunteer sign-in*)

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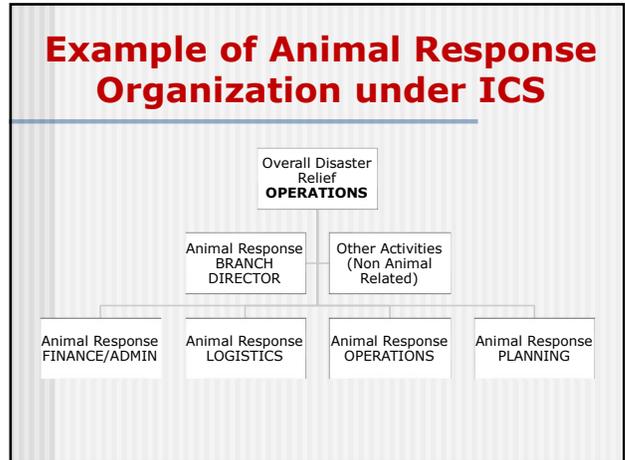
Auxiliary Areas

- Animal rescue team staging area
- Garbage
- Biohazard waste
- Haz-mat disposal
- Dead animal holding facility
- Decontamination area

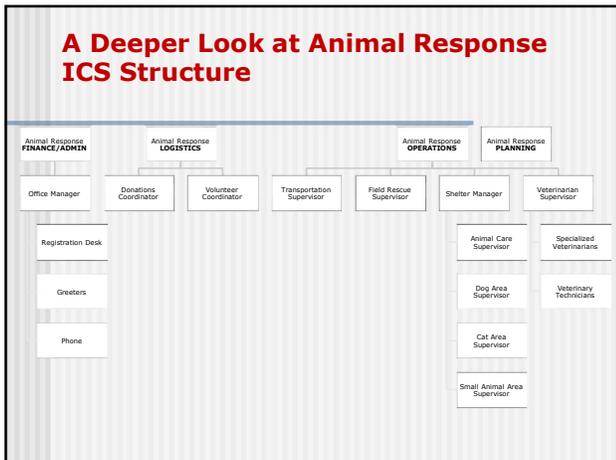
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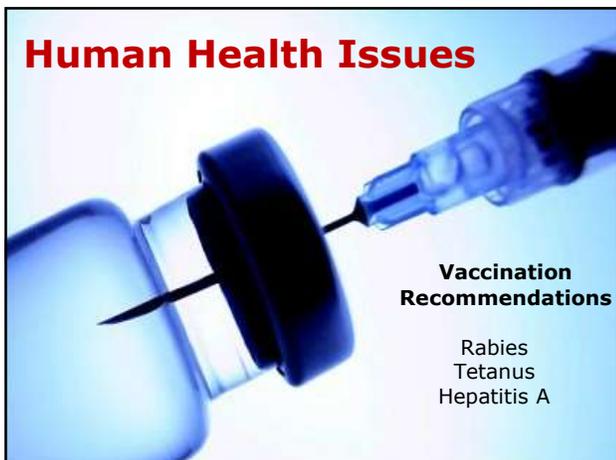
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- ## NHDART Activation Protocols
- **General Provisions**
 - State Veterinarian is the Lead
 - DART's operate under NIMS and ICS at all times.
 - DART's work under the authority in charge.
 - DARTs never self-deploy.

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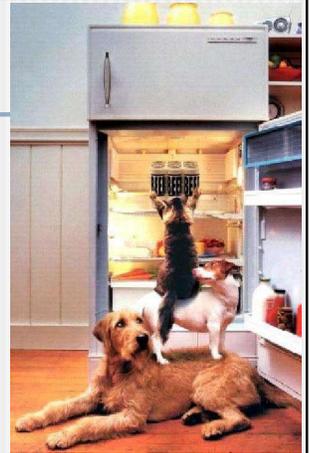
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Keeping Track of the Animals



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Developing Public/Private Partnerships



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Local Resources



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State Resources

- NHDART
- NHDHHS
- NH Department of Agriculture, Food & Markets
- NH Veterinary Medical Association
- NH Federation of Humane Organizations
- NH Animal Control Association
- American Red Cross

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National Resources



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Scope of Assistance Before, During & Post Disaster



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NHDART Assets

- Companion Animal Mobile Equipment Trailers (CAMET)
- (Soon-to-be) Trained Teams
- MOU with NHDAFM & ARC
- Operations Manual
 - Standardized Forms
 - Standardized Protocols
 - Activation Procedures
 - Animal Handling Tips



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NHDART Committee

- NH Department of Agriculture, Food & Markets – **STATE LEAD**
- NH Dept. of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services, Bureau of Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery
- Private Shelters & Rescues
- Animal Control
- American Red Cross
- CERT
- NH Veterinary Medical Association
- DART Members
- USDA/APHIS

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Questions?

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