



NC Response Ready Conference Agenda

Sunday, October 12, 2025

4:00pm – 6:00pm

Early Registration

6:30pm – 9:30pm

Molly's Meet & Greet – Sponsored by Saving Grace

Monday, October 13, 2025

7:30am – 8:30am

Registration

8:30am – 9:00am

Welcome & Introductions

9:00am – 12:00pm

Eric Thompson – Animal Incident Management Group, Executive Director of Disaster and Field Response – Bridging the Gap: Leveraging Multi-Agency Animal Resources in Times of Crisis

12:00pm – 1:30pm

Sponsored Lunch – Jackson Creek Mtg.

Animal Control Classes

1:30pm – 3:00pm

ASPCA – Clint Ganus - Comprehensive Disaster Preparedness: Protecting Animals, Staff, and Communities

Jenn Cherry - Field Operations, It's a Disaster!

3:00pm – 4:30pm

Celia Jackson - Humane World for Animals, Program Manager Disaster Response – Effective Planning for Animals in Disasters: Consideration for Animal Services Professionals

Sheltering Classes

1:30pm – 3:00pm

Sara Varsa & Leigh-Elliot Hughes - Greater Good – Transfer and Transport in Times of Disaster

3:00pm – 4:30pm

Jim Street – Implementing Protocols for Specific Infectious Agents

7:30pm – Until

ACO Olympics!!!!!!!!!!

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

8:30am – 4:30pm

Emergency Programs Division of NCDA&CS

This comprehensive, day-long session is designed for animal welfare professionals who are involved in disaster preparedness and response. Led by experts from the Emergency Programs Division of NCDA&CS, the class will cover essential aspects of animal care during emergencies, from pre-disaster planning to post-disaster recovery.

Participants will learn how to develop and implement emergency response plans, coordinate animal rescue efforts, manage resources, and ensure the safety of both animals and responders during crises. Topics will include understanding the roles of different agencies in disaster scenarios, best practices for evacuation, sheltering, and care, and how to handle the unique challenges of working with animals in high-stress environments.

By the end of the day, participants will have a clearer understanding of their role in disaster response, stronger collaborative strategies with partner agencies, and a greater capacity to protect animals during emergencies.

12:00pm – 1:30pm Sponsored Business Lunch – Elections, Awards

8:00pm – 11:00pm

Social

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

9:00am – 10:00am

Updates from Mary Ann McBride, DVM – NC USDA

10:00am – 11:00am

Updates from Patricia Norris, DVM – Director of the Animal Welfare Section of the NCDA&CS

11:00am – 12:00pm

Updates from Emily Herring, DVM – Public Health Veterinarian

12:00pm – Until

Closing and Raffle