

SMCLAEG COVID-19 Guidelines

Cardinal Rules

1. If you are experiencing symptoms which match COVID-19, you should not respond. You can help the team from home by acting as a communications manager. The same rule applies if you are in a “high risk” category for COVID-19.
2. If evacuating an animal requires you to expose yourself to possible contagion in an unsafe manner, disengage. Call in to Dispatch and let them know the situation is unworkable.
3. Anyone who is not comfortable responding to a call-out under the current Shelter-In-Place order is entirely free to opt out with no explanation required.

Travel to and from Staging Area

1. If it is practical, the trailer team should consider using separate vehicles for each team member. Be sure to inform Dispatch of all vehicles being used. Radios and cell phones may be used to communicate amongst the team.
2. If two team members must travel in the same vehicle: Driver and passenger should distance themselves from each other as much as possible unless they are from the same household and not currently quarantined from each other. Passenger sits in back seat, for example.
3. Passenger and Driver should consider wearing respirators (to protect the wearer from airborne virus) or surgical mask/bandana (to protect the other person from the wearer’s respiratory exhalations). Note that persons with asthma or other respiratory-related health conditions should not use masks or respirators of any kind without a doctor’s OK.

At the Scene

1. Use your own halters whenever possible. Use disposable gloves to handle halters from the site.
2. If you use non-disposable gloves to handle animals, disinfect them with alcohol (70% isopropyl or ethanol) or bag them after use.
1. Maintain 6 foot distance from other team members (whenever possible), owners, first responders and others at all times. Consider using an N95 respirator if available (see training slides attached), or a surgical/dust mask or other covering to protect others.

At Staging/Holding Areas

2. Maintain 6 foot distance from other team members, first responders, etc.
3. Use disposable gloves if you touch any surfaces or use the restroom.
4. Consider using an N95 respirator if available, or a surgical/dust mask or other covering to protect others.
5. Disinfect your hands frequently by washing with soap and water or using hand sanitizer.

Kris Thoren

Rev 1

07APR2020