

Animals In Disaster Have You Considered??

2019 SERC Conference
Wednesday August 21, 2019
Canaan Valley State Park

Did You Know??

- 68% of U.S. households have pets
- 48% of U.S households have one or more pets
- 38% of U.S. households have one or more cats
- How many of you know how many pets are your jurisdiction
- Who has conducted any type of survey/research

Pets Evacuation & Transportation Standards Act of 2006 (PETS)

- Enacted January 3, 2006 as a result of Hurricane Katrina
- Amended the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Act
- Requires state and local emergency plans to take into account the needs of individuals with household pets & service prior to, & following a major disaster or emergency
- In October 2006 FEMA put into place Disaster Policy (DA 9523.19, Eligible Costs Related to Pet Evacuations & Sheltering.
 - Policy identified FEMA reimbursable activities for pet evacuations & sheltering by state & local governments during major disasters or declared emergencies

Why Are We Talking About Animals At SERC Conference

- How many of you have a response/annexes plans for hazmat incidents
- What resources do you utilize; hazmat teams, rescue teams, wreckers, environmental cleanup, EMS, etc.
- If you have an animal sheltering/evacuation plans that you implement during floods, snow storms, wind storms, etc. why not utilize your plans for hazardous materials incidents

Huntington Coal Tar Spill

- November 1, 2004 at 930: 23,000 gallons of coal tar distillate leaked from a rail car leaked into Krout Creek/Twelve pole/Ohio River
- Very hazardous situation/very flammable
- 500 homes, business, 2 schools=about 2,000 people were evacuated for several days
- Karen Dempsey, a resident who was evacuated-"we had to leave the dogs here, they wouldn't let me into feed them, all I could do was to sneak in feed & water them
- Jerry Beckett, HFD Deputy Chief was incident commander

Other Hazmat Incidents That Involved Evacuations

- Have you had to deal with similar incidents in your jurisdiction?

Animals Response Survey

- Original survey sent out in?? by DHSEM Director Jimmy Gianato
- Has been updated periodically listing animal equipment/supplies/personnel available
- 44 of 55 counties have completed
- Copy on table

Animal Response Plans

- County plans for Cabell, Jefferson, Kanawha-Putnam, Ohio ????
- Eastern Panhandle Animals in Disaster Plan, ???