

EMERGENCY SERVICES FUNCTION - 11

A FIRST ATTEMPT FOR THE JEFFERSON COUNTY
OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT TO DEVELOP THIS ANNEX



THE ESF – 11 TEAM

- Representatives of organizations and agencies with an interest in agriculture and natural resources in Jefferson County – 20 agencies / individuals asked to participate

Principal participants

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| • County Commissioner / Farmer | Jane Tabb |
| • Private Citizen / Farmer | Glen Hetzel |
| • Private Citizen / Farmer | Richard Blue |
| • Jefferson County Fairgrounds | Todd Wilt |
| • Charles Town Races and Slots | Laura Gatto |
| • USDA Farm Service Agency | Robin Potter |
| • WVU Extension Service & 4-H | Emily Morrow |
| • WV Pets In Disaster Task Force | Brenda Reynolds |
| • WV Department of Agriculture | Roy McCallister |
| • Contracted to JH Consulting | Henry T. McDonald |

Primary Agencies

- Jefferson County Animal Control
- Jefferson County Sheriff's Department

SUPPORT AGENCIES

- 4-H
- Briggs Animal Adoption Center
- Future Farmers of America
- Jefferson County Animal Welfare Society
- Jefferson County Fairgrounds
- West Virginia Department of Agriculture
- West Virginia Farm Bureau
- West Virginia Pets in Disaster Task Force

SUPPORT AGENCIES (Continued)

- United States Department of Agriculture
 - Appalachian Fruit Research Station
 - Cool & Cold Water Research Center
 - Farm Service Agency
 - Natural Resources Conservation Service
- West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
- West Virginia University Extension
- West Virginia University Experimental Farm

PURPOSE

A. The purpose of Emergency Support Function (ESF) 11 is to outline the response and resources available in Jefferson County during a disaster affecting agriculture, natural resources, and/or household pets.

SCOPE

A. ESF 11 guides response for emergencies that affect the agricultural community, the integrity of plants and animals affected by contagious diseases or pests that may cause economic hardship, and the safety of household pets during evacuation and sheltering situations.

POLICIES

A. All agencies assigned responsibilities within ESF 11 should develop and maintain operating guidelines, plans, procedures, and mutual aid agreements to accomplish their assigned tasks.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

- The Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management is the lead agency for ESF 11 in the Jefferson County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and is responsible for the maintenance of this section of the Jefferson County Emergency Operations Plan. There are four separate functions under this ESF, Agricultural Assistance, Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response, Safety of Household Pets, and Protection of Natural, Cultural, and Historic Resources.

CONCEPTS OF OPERATION

- A. ESF 11 personnel should respond to the EOC when an incident threatens the agricultural community, endangers animal (pets and/or farm animals) health, or endangers historical, cultural, or natural resources.
- B. The farming community is a “tight-knit” community and as such, may rely on other farmers for assistance before requesting or accepting assistance from government agencies or other organizations.
- C. Information on estimated animal populations is located in Appendix 1.

CONCEPTS OF OPERATION (CONT'D)

D. Agricultural Assistance

1. The West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) maintains a quantity of equipment and supplies at WVDA facilities in Moorefield and Guthrie. These items may be utilized for agriculture assistance.
2. Ultimately, the responsibility for livestock, poultry, and other farm related animals, lies on the owner. Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management will support efforts through an activated, or partially activated EOC, requesting resources available through surrounding jurisdictions and the state EOC.

CONCEPTS OF OPERATION (CONT'D)

3. In the event of a necessary evacuation of farm animals, the Jefferson County Fairgrounds, when necessary and possible, may provide areas to hold the animals temporarily.
 - a. Animals, although at the fairgrounds, will remain under the care (e.g., feeding, veterinarian care, etc.) of the owner.

4. Resource assistance and subject matter expertise may be provided by WVU Extension and the WVU Experimental Farm at Kearneysville.

CONCEPTS OF OPERATION (CONT'D)

E. Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response

1. Locally, the main responsibility will be to educate the community on animal and plant diseases and invasive species, how to recognize them, and where to report them.
2. The West Virginia Department of Agriculture has the primary responsibility in the state for monitoring and responding to animal and plant disease and pests.

CONCEPTS OF OPERATION (CONT'D)

F. Safety of Household Pets

1. The county will support the safety and evacuation of household pets. However, pet owners are responsible for their animals.
2. Pet owners should maintain emergency information (e.g., vaccination records, veterinarian's name, and number, etc.) and emergency supplies (e.g., food, water, etc.) in a traveling kit that is readily available.
3. Transportation and sheltering of household pets is covered in Appendix 1: Animals in Disaster Executive Summary.

CONCEPTS OF OPERATION (CONT'D)

G. Protection of Natural, Cultural, and Historic (NCH) Resources

1. During pre-disaster mitigation and the recovery phase of a disaster, considerations for the care and protection of NCH resources should be taken.
 - a. Personnel and subject matter experts on NCH resources do not normally staff ESF 11.
2. A meeting may be held to address protection of an NCH resource. Participants may include, Jefferson County Historical Society, Jefferson County Museum, West Virginia Division of Culture and History, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection.
3. The United States Department of Interior coordinates the Natural & Cultural Resources Recovery Support Function in the National Disaster Recovery Framework.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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