

# Evacuation & Emergency Preparedness Clinic

Sponsored by SD Country Estates Association  
Equestrian Committee, Ramona West End Fire Safe  
Council and SDG&E

Saturday September 07, 2024





# Human – Animal Bond

Well documented people will risk entering evacuated areas to try to reach their animals

OR

People will not evacuate without their animals





**New Orleans, Hurricane Katrina, 2005**

# **Pet Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act**

The PETS Act requires local and state emergency preparedness authorities to include in their evacuation plans how they will accommodate household pets and service animals in the event of a major disaster. In order to qualify for grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), local and state authorities must submit these plans.

# Annex “O”

- The San Diego Operational Area Emergency Plan Animal Services Annex describes the basic concepts, policies, and procedures for providing a coordinated animal control response to any disaster.
- This Annex serves as the unifying document for the emergency plans of the County, Cities, and animal care and control agencies.
- [EOP2022\\_Annex O .pdf \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](#)

# Collaborative Team

- Emergency management
- Animal Control
- Law Enforcement
- Fire, EMS, SAR
- SDHS - ERT
- Facilities Managers (parks, fairgrounds, horse arenas)
- Agriculture
- Veterinary Clinics, Hospitals and Associations
- Purebred Kennel Clubs
- Animal Rescue Organizations
- Working Animal Organizations
- Livestock Associations
- Zoos
- Red Cross – CA AB 781
- County Animal Response Teams (CARTS/DARTS)
- Private sector (pet food/supply retailers, pet boarding facilities, pet stores, etc.)
- Civic, social, educational, professional, and advocacy organizations (e.g., those that address animal care and welfare).

# Disasters: They did happen - and will again











# Who is Responsible for Evacuating Pets?



**Owner's are responsible  
to evacuate themselves  
and their pets.**



# Preparedness starts with YOU

**No one can be productive in a disaster if they have not insured the safety of family and pets.**

"Take your pet with you." If it is not safe for YOU it is not safe for your family pets. Evacuate early! You can always return.

- You and your pet can always go back once it is safe, there is NO guarantee you would be allowed back to get your pet.
- **PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE** your evacuation plan – Can someone else do your plan ?
- How long will it take for **EVERYONE** to get out



**Keeping people and pets together decreases the person's and the pet's stress and is less labor intensive.**



# How do we include pets in the Emergency Plan?





# How prepared are you

## Prior to evacuating remember:

- A “go kit” for all family members including your pet - enough for 72 hours.
- Get your pet familiar with a crate/carrier/trailer and attach an information packet.
- Socialize your pet

## When evacuating with your pet remember the following:

- Follow your PLAN
  - Can someone else work your plan?
  - Have you practiced your plan?

home or NOT home



# Unique for each pet



How can we get in?





Pet owners permanently identify your pet with a microchip.

Register pet with a national database

Is your information current?



# Make it visible



Microchip AND clearly put some kind of physical VISIBLE ID on your pet

- Get fancy – or NOT, just ID them
  - A nice expensive halter with a name tag just might disappear
  - Duct Tape and permanent marker works great and stays on
  - Luggage tag in mane
  - Your name and phone number



# Get Out Ahead



Make sure each vehicle has plenty of fuel or charge and is parked facing toward the exit road. Know where the keys are.

**NEVER TURN YOUR LIVESTOCK LOOSE, THEY ARE SAFER IN A STOMPED DOWN CORRAL OR ARENA.**



**Resist the temptation to stay behind. You will be endangering lives of emergency personnel, your family members and yourself.**

# **Identify Plan(s) of Evacuation**

**Law Enforcement will identify routes based on situation**

**Ready, Set, GO!**



**Know your area IN THE DARK  
without using a GPS.**

# Road Closures - FOR everyone's safety

**Hard Closure** - Closed to all traffic except Fire and Law Enforcement

**Soft Closure** - Closed to all traffic except FD, LE and critical incident resources (i.e. utility companies CalTrans, County Roads, etc.)

**Resident only Closure** - Soft closure with the additional allowance of residents and local government agencies assisting with response and recovery.



# Evacuation Orders

## Evacuation Warning vs. Evacuation Order

An evacuation warning means there's impending danger to your life or property. If a warning is given assume an evacuation order will follow. Start gathering important items for your family and pets. Any individuals who need extra time to evacuate, or anyone with large animals, should pack-up and leave when a warning is issued.

An evacuation order means there's an immediate threat to your life and you need to leave right now! It's critical to follow all directions from law enforcement to ensure you and your family evacuate safely.

### Warning (use to be voluntary)

- \* **Leave early— if you do not feel safe get out NOW**
- \* **Don't wait for an Evacuation order!**
- \* **You choose where to go**
- \* **Have 2 escape routes**

### Evacuation Order (use to be mandatory)

- \* **Past time to leave**
- \* **You will not be able to return**
- \* **Traffic - STRESS**
- \* **We are mandated to provide a shelter**





# Road Blocks

## Safety and Confinement

- \* Why and When Road Blocks are placed.
- \* Who can pass
  - \* Hard closure
  - \* Soft closure
  - \* Resident only
- \* Emergency Personnel is in charge and responsible for your safety
  - \* Are you trained?
  - \* Do you have the proper gear?
  - \* Do you have legal access?



- Temporary Evacuation Points are not listed pre-disaster. The location will be determined by the Sheriff or Fire Department upon onset of a disaster or a large-scale incident.

### **Q: What kinds of locations are suitable as a Temporary Evacuation Point?**

- The locations will vary as they are identified by the Sheriff as a safe zone away from the immediate disaster or incident. For example: they may be a park, a local school parking lot, or an open field.

### **Q: How long do we stay at the Temporary Evacuation Point?**

- Your stay at a Temporary Evacuation Point may last just a few minutes to a few hours. The Sheriff will notify you when you can safely return home or recommend moving to an Evacuation Shelter.

### **Q: Are services provided at a Temporary Evacuation Point?**

- Generally, no services are provided at a Temporary Evacuation Point. However, if you are at a Temporary Evacuation Point for several hours, snacks and drinks may be provided (if available).

## Evacuation Shelters

### **Q: What is an Evacuation Shelter?**

- It is a location that has been identified by the Emergency Operations Center and Red Cross as a short-term place to spend the night when a disaster or large-scale incident occurs. It is set-up because residents are being displaced or evacuated overnight. Red Cross often manages them.

### **Q: Are all the Evacuation Shelters listed on a website, so I know where to go on my own?**

- Evacuation Shelters are not listed pre-disaster. The location will be determined by the Emergency Operations Center and Red Cross when a disaster or large-scale incident strikes.

### **Q: What kinds of locations are suitable as an Evacuation Shelter?**

- The locations will generally include a large room, such as a school gym and bathroom facilities. Other suitable locations could be a Community or Health Center, or a Church just to name a few.

### **Q: How long do we stay at an Evacuation Shelter?**

- The Sheriff will notify the community when they can safely return home. The shelter may only be a one-night stay or be open for several days and nights. Residents have in and out privileges.

### **Q: Are services provided at an Evacuation Shelter?**

- Yes, in addition to cots: meals, snacks and drinks are provided at an Evacuation Shelter.

**Brought to you by the San Diego County Fire Community Emergency Response Team (SDCF CERT)**



# Lone survivor

SD Sheriff















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# ACTION

- Register your cell phone(s)
  - Download Emergency notification apps
  
- Family meeting - decide what needs to go in an emergency and how it will be transported
  - ✓ Pets included of course
  
- Go kit
  - What items do you and your pets need to be comfortable and cared for

# NEVER

## ❖ **ENTER a closed area**

- **Human safety must come first**

## ❖ **RELY on your cell phone**

- **Make sure vital numbers are PRINTED/Handwritten out**
- **NOT a good GPS with roadblocks and cell coverage**

## ❖ **FUEL – wait until tomorrow**

- **Have enough fuel in your vehicle to get out of town**

| Description  | Phone number | Website   |
|--|--------------|---|
| Immediate Emergency Assistance                         | 911          |   |
| Disaster Center Hotline                                | 211          | <a href="http://211sandiego.org/">http://211sandiego.org/</a>                         |
| CAL FIRE/Fire Information Hotline                      | 619.590.3160 |   |
| California Highway Patrol CHP                          | 858.637.3800 |   |
| County of San Diego Animal Services Emergency Dispatch | 619.236.2341 | <a href="http://www.sddac.com">www.sddac.com</a>                                      |
| County traffic, transit & commuter information         | 511          | <a href="http://dot.ca.gov/cttravel/">http://dot.ca.gov/cttravel/</a>                 |
| Ready San Diego  |              | <a href="http://www.readysandiego.org/">http://www.readysandiego.org/</a>             |
| San Diego Humane Society Dispatch                      | 619.299.7012 | <a href="https://sdhumane.org/">https://sdhumane.org/</a>                             |
| San Diego Police Department NON-emergency              | 619.531.2000 | <a href="https://www.sandiego.gov/police/">https://www.sandiego.gov/police/</a>       |
| San Diego Sheriff Department NON-emergency             | 858.565.5200 | <a href="http://www.sdsheriff.net/">http://www.sdsheriff.net/</a>                     |
| AAHA Universal Pet Microchip Lookup                    |              | <a href="http://www.petmicrochiplookup.org/">http://www.petmicrochiplookup.org/</a>   |
| Caltrans Road Closures                                 | 800.427.7623 |   |
| Office of Emergency Services                           | 858.565.3490 | <a href="https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/oes/">https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/oes/</a> |
|  |              |   |

# Questions?



Thank you ! Lt. Dj Gove  
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