

Household Pet Emergency Shelter Training Course

This section covers guidelines for setting up and operating a temporary pet emergency shelter in a community. This protocol was designed to assist with the sheltering of household pets belonging to Louisiana residents, recognizing that not all shelters can be co-located or pet-friendly. The goal of this course is to provide the user with a standardized guideline for safe and efficient household pet shelter operation, while guaranteeing that all pets are properly identified, registered and linked to their owners, thus ensuring that they can be reunited if separated. Shelter operators are encouraged to make every effort to prevent separation of pets from their owners and preserve the strength of the human-animal bond.

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Current Positions:

Louisiana State Animal Response Team Director LSART Veterinary Medical Reserve Corps
Statewide Unit Leader

Owner /DVM Acadiana Veterinary Clinic for small and exotic animals in Lafayette La.

Co-Chair of the NASAAEP Evacuation and Transportation Best Practices working group.

Louisiana Veterinary Medical Association's Emergency Management and Disaster
Preparedness committee chair.

Adjunct assistant professor of Veterinary Clinical Sciences at the LSU School of Veterinary
Medicine educating veterinary students in animal disaster response.

Academic Degrees:

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, LSU School of Veterinary Medicine Baton Rouge LA 1988

Certifications: Veterinary Acupuncture, International Veterinary Acupuncture Society 1992

Emergency Response Experience 2017: Responded to Hurricane Harvey Providing veterinary support for Texas pets sheltered by Louisiana as part of the LSART Veterinary Medical Reserve Corps. 2016: Responded to the March and Aug 2016 Louisiana Floods as LSART Director assisted with parish assessments as well as large and small animal sheltering. 2012: Responded to Hurricane ISAAC as LSART Director, assisted in parish assessments as well as small and Large Animal Search and Rescue 2010: May-Sept: As LSART Director coordinated over 213 local La animal responders into the oiled wildlife rehabilitation response for the MC252 BP oil spill. LSART supported Tri-state as the lead BP contractor and IBRRC at wildlife stabilization sites and rehabilitation facilities. Feb: Through Emergency Response Network agreement with the International Fund for Animal Welfare responded to Haitian earthquake as veterinarian running vaccination and deworming clinics treating over 800 large and small

animals in local villages near the earthquake center to protect the human population. 2009: Presided over 2nd LSART Summit to assist local parishes, animal control agencies and humane organizations with developing an emergency evacuation plan for the animals in their care. Presented nine statewide trainings for local parishes in evacuation and sheltering. 2008: Aug-Sept: Hurricanes Gustav and Ike Response State of La Small Animal Branch Director for state ESF11- coordinated 2 co-located household pet shelters for the pets of the critical transportation and medical special needs human populations as well 3 co-located household pet shelters for self evacuators. LSART trained local animal control agencies and LSART volunteers to assist local parishes in the evacuation of pets from the twelve coastal parishes of Louisiana. Assisted in the post event response in Terrebonne and Calcasieu parish for Hurricane Gustav and Ike. May: Assisted local parish animal control in setting up co-located pet shelter for train derailment response in Lafayette La. 2007: March: Presided over first LSART Summit to get all of the state stake holders in animal response to meet and discuss coordination. 2006: Developed LSART Sheltering and Evacuation Manual to assist local parishes in integrating household pets into their emergency response plans. Participated in the development of the state equine plan for Louisiana. 2005: Hurricanes Katrina and Rita Response- LSART Director -oversight of 9 emergency animal shelters including 3 response shelters 2004: Hurricane Ivan Response LSART director – 1st co-located pet shelter in La established under LSART Relevant Publications and Presentations 2017 Multiple trainings in LSART Household Pet evacuation and Pet sheltering throughout Louisiana 2010: AAV conference – Update on Wildlife response to Bp oil spill LVMA winter meeting –LSART update National Evacuation Conference Panel Nontraditional Evacuation Issues: The impact of Animals on Evacuation Management 2009: NASAAEP 2009 Summit on Companion Animal Emergency Management- Case studies 2008-2009 Hurricanes Gustav and IKE, Evacuation and Transportation roundtable. 2008: AVMA Convention - Implementation of the Pet's act- Plans and Coordination for Joint Pet Owner Evacuation and Sheltering in Louisiana. NDMS Training Summit –Implementing the Pet's Act 2007: AVMA Convention- Coordinating State and Local Emergency Operations. National Hurricane Conference – Animals in Disaster Awards: 2011-Association for Women Veterinarians Foundation Outstanding Woman Veterinarian of the Year: 2008 La Veterinarian of the Year 2006 Everett Besch Distinguished Service Award