



**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY**  
**MIKE STRAIN DVM**  
**COMMISSIONER**



February 5, 2024

To: Animal Facilities

From: Michelle Ribera  
Director of Emergency Programs

Re: Animal Plans

The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry reminds you that Revised Statute 29:729 requires that animal shelters, humane societies, veterinary offices, boarding kennels, breeders, grooming facilities, hospitals, schools, animal testing facilities, and any other businesses or not-for-profit agencies that normally house household pets or service animals, create evacuation plans for such animals. Such plans shall be made available to the public upon request and shall be filed annually with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Office of Animal Health and Food Safety and with their respective Parish Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Agency.

The Statute names the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry as the repository for the facilities pet plan and this plan is due in our office by March 1<sup>st</sup> each year. A copy of your plan is also required at your parish homeland security and emergency preparedness agency. We need to prepare for hurricane season, so submission of your pet emergency plan cannot be delayed.

There are many guidelines for safely transporting and housing pets and there are also readily available resources to help facilities develop a workable plan. Call our office or visit the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry website at [www.ldaf.state.la.us](http://www.ldaf.state.la.us) if you need assistance with your facility plan.

This is a reminder that your facility plan is due in our office by March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year at the following address:

Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry  
Office of Animal Health and Food Safety  
5825 Florida Blvd. Suite 4000  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806  
or email to:  
[AnimalPlan@ldaf.state.la.us](mailto:AnimalPlan@ldaf.state.la.us)

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Ribera".

Michelle Ribera  
Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Animal Health and Food Safety  
Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry